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The POULTRY and EGG SITUATION

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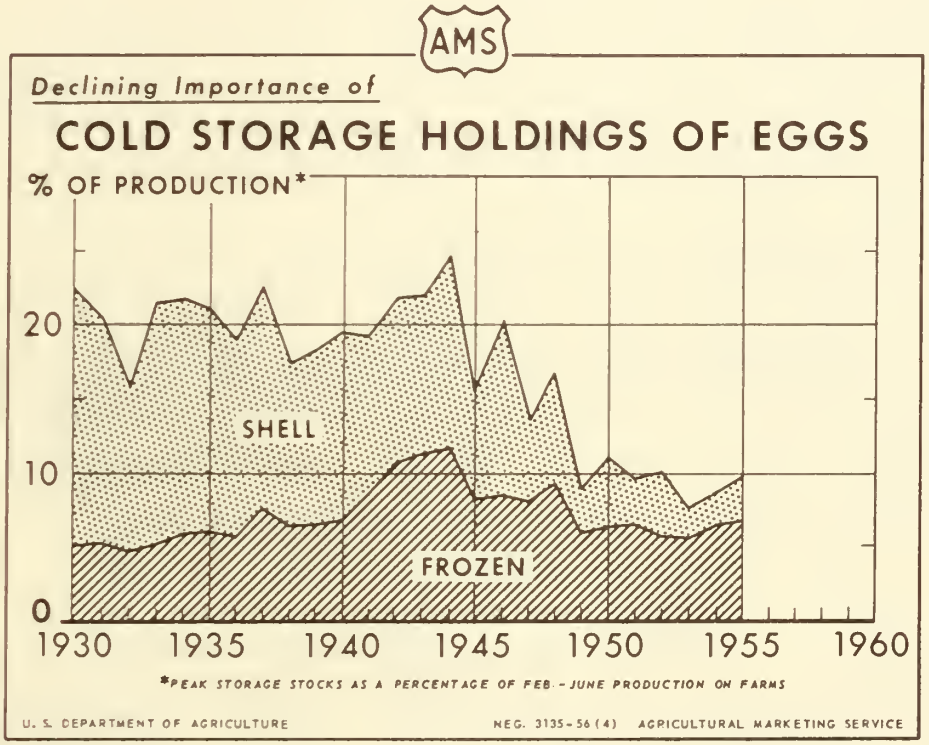
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In this issue:
Seasonality in Broiler Check Placements

PES-183



Peak stocks of frozen egg as a percentage of total egg production have held steady compared with pre-war. While storage of shell eggs has declined in terms of both number of cases and proportion of output, storage of frozen egg has increased in absolute volume, compared with pre-war. Holdings of frozen egg were particularly large during the 1940's when Government lend-lease and price-support programs were in effect.

Because egg production on farms now varies less from season to season than it did 10 or 15 years ago, the seasonal pattern of egg prices is also smoother. The usual seasonal price rise from spring to fall no longer justifies storage of as large a proportion of spring production in shell form as in previous years.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION AT A GLANCE

Item	Unit	Month or date	Average 1945-54	1955	1956	Month or date	Average 1945-54	1955	1956	Comments on current situation
EGGS										
Farm production	Mil. doz.	Mar.	514.7	477.9	480.8	Apr.	506.3	470.7	465.8	
Average number of layers on farms	Millions	Mar.	356.6	318.6	314.9	Apr.	339.5	306.2	304.1	On May 1, layers were within 1 million of 1955 figure.
Rate of lay per layer	Eggs	Mar.	17.4	18.0	18.3	Apr.	17.9	18.4	18.4	
Apparent disappearance, shell eggs per civilian	Eggs	Mar.	35.5	30.5	30.4	Apr.	31.8	28.6	28.5	
Frozen egg production	Mil. lb.	Feb.	34.5	27.5	26.4	Mar.	66.6	55.4	49.2	Lower than last year, and reflected in storage.
Dried egg production	Mil. lb.	Feb.	5.7	1.9	1.5	Mar.	8.6	2.4	2.6	
Price received by farmers	Ct.per doz.	Mar.	38.2	39.7	39.6	Apr.	38.0	35.9	38.5	
Price received by farmers as a percentage of parity	Percent	Mar.	94	97	97	Apr.	93	86	93	
Retail price (AMS)	Ct.per doz.	Feb.	56.6	57.8	58.0	Mar.	56.8	59.0	58.1	
Egg-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	Mar.	10.3	10.6	11.6	Apr.	10.1	9.6	11.0	
Stocks:										
Shell	Thous.cases	Apr. 1	1,178	479	309	May 1	2,288	1,183	629	Even at peak, unlikely to approach last year's levels.
Frozen	Mil. lb.	Apr. 1	100.4	83.7	61.4	May 1	143.8	125.8	94.4	
Chicks hatched by commercial hatcheries	Millions	Mar.	268.2	254.3	283.7	Apr.	306.0	273.5	297.8	Most of increase due to broilers.
Chicks, young chickens, on farms, April 1	Millions	Apr. 1	211.3	169.9	177.9	May 1	393.4	273.8	279.8	
Farm price of poultry ration	Dol.per cwt	Mar.	3.74	3.76	3.42	Apr.	3.77	3.73	3.51	
POULTRY										
Price received by farmers for chickens, live										
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	Mar.	29.3	29.7	21.9	Apr.	30.0	28.4	20.5	Broiler slaughter since January 1 a third above comparable 1955: a factor in lower prices.
Farm chickens	Ct. per lb.	Mar.	26.4	20.9	20.1	Apr.	26.2	20.3	19.7	
All chickens	Ct. per lb.	Mar.	28.2	27.8	21.6	Apr.	28.3	26.8	20.3	
Price received by farmers for all chickens as a percentage of parity	Percent	Mar.	99	95	77	Apr.	100	91	77	
Retail price of broilers and fryers dressed (AMS)	Ct. per lb.	Feb.	50.2	51.2	47.5	Mar.	50.3	55.1	47.3	
Price received by farmers for turkeys, live	Ct. per lb.	Mar.	34.2	30.4	32.1	Apr.	34.1	29.7	30.9	Farmers' sales now seasonally small, except for breeders, and these prices do not reflect price rises since January 1 in frozen heavy toms.
Stocks:										
Poultry, excluding turkeys	Mil. lb.	Apr. 1	119.4	69.9	91.2	May 1	159.1	56.9	85.0	
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	Apr. 1	85.5	92.5	63.9	May 1	68.8	70.7	49.0	
Broiler-feed price ratio 1/	Lb. feed	Mar.	---	5.8	4.6	Apr.	---	5.5	4.2	
Turkey-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	Mar.	9.3	8.1	9.4	Apr.	9.2	8.0	8.8	
Average weekly placement of chicks in 22 important States	Millions	Mar.	---	20.4	25.2	Apr.	---	22.1	26.5	May continues at or above April rate.

1/ This differs from the chicken-feed price ratio appearing in this table prior to PES-176.

THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, May 21, 1956

SUMMARY

Egg prices rose in early May, as the season's peak of production passed, and interest in storage increased after the size of the replacement hatch became known. Despite some price declines about the middle of the month, the prospect is for egg prices to advance seasonally. But the peak is likely to occur earlier than last year when it was reached in December.

Thus far in 1956, egg prices have been above a year earlier and are likely to continue so until early fall. The 1956 average is likely to exceed the 38.9 cent per dozen average price of 1955. Cash receipts will also likely exceed 1955 in view of prospective larger production.

The spring hatch of replacement chicks, now drawing to an end, shows only a small increase over 1955. On May 1, the number of young replacement chickens on farms was 2 percent greater than a year earlier, and cumulative hatchings of replacements to that date were 7 percent above 1955. In view of the larger number of hens that will have to be replaced this fall, the number of layers on hand January 1, 1957 is likely to be little, if any, larger than a year earlier.

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Although feed prices currently are below last year at the same time, recent sharp increases in feed costs have tended to hold down the late-season hatching of replacement chicks. Feed prices paid by farmers have risen as much as 10 percent in the last 2 or 3 months. Futher increases are indicated by the fact that wholesale prices of two basic feedstuffs--corn and soybean meal--have risen about 20 percent since late winter.

Higher current and prospective feed prices have not reduced hatchings of broiler chicks and heavy turkeys. Numbers of broilers now growing, and settings of hatching eggs in important producing areas, were about 20 percent larger in January-May than in the comparable months last year. April hatchings of heavy-breed turkeys were 23 percent above April 1955. Eggs of heavy-breed turkeys in incubators May 1 were 15 percent more than last May 1. The hatch of heavy turkeys from January through May is about 50 million birds, one-quarter more than in 1955. This increase vastly more than offsets the prospective 2 million poult reduction (20 percent) in hatchings of light-breed poults.

Broiler prices in recent months have been below 1955, and are likely to continue so for the next few months. In mid-April, the United States average price was 20.5 cents per pound compared with 28.4 a year earlier.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Replacement Hatch Early, but Only Slightly Larger Than 1955

Fewer replacement chicks are being hatched and raised this year than would have been expected from early-season indications. In January and February, hatchings of replacement chicks were 24 and 21 percent above the same months in 1955. March hatchings were up 3 percent while April showed a 1 percent increase. The increase for January-April over 1955 was 7 percent. The number of replacement-type eggs in incubators on May 1 was up 4 percent from a year earlier. On May 1, there were 2 percent more young chickens than a year earlier on farms for laying flock replacement.

Though larger than last year, the hatch is not likely to result in a significant increase in the total number of layers to be on hand January 1, 1957. This is because of the smaller number of pullets (1955-hatched layers) in the current laying flock, and the relatively larger number of hens.

At the beginning of each recent calendar year, the composition of the laying flock has fluctuated around an average of roughly 1/3 hens and 2/3 pullets. Practically all of each year's hens are drawn from the preceding year's pullets. Except in the unlikely event that considerably more than usual of the present pullet layers are kept as hens, the number of hens on hand January 1, 1957 will be smaller than a year earlier. Accordingly, more pullets than were saved in 1955 would be required to result in a total laying flock of equal size.

Table 1.- Indications of changes in monthly distribution of replacement chicks during hatching season, 1952 to date

Item and year	Unit	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
Hatchery output of chicks for farm flock replacement						
Percentage of previous year						
1952	Pct.	112	104	92	74	52
1953	do.	97	99	102	107	127
1954	do.	118	117	109	94	76
1955	do.	n.a.	73	81	77	93
1956	do.	121	103	101	1/	
Young chickens on farms for flock replacement, first of month						
Number						
1952	Mil.			222	356	429
1953	do.			219	343	407
1954	do.			229	345	409
1955	do.			170	274	
1956	do.			178	280	
Young chickens on farms for flock replacement, first of month						
Percentage of previous year						
1952	Pct.			102	93	90
1953	do.			99	96	95
1954	do.			105	101	101
1955	do.			74	79	80
1956	do.			105	102	

1/ On May 1, 1956, eggs in incubators for replacement-type chicks were 4 percent more than a year earlier.

n.a. - Not available.

If the usual relationships prevail in pullets saved per 100 pullet chicks raised, and in hens saved per 100 pullet layers on hand the previous year, about 3 to 5 percent more chickens could be raised this year without resulting in a net increase over last January 1 in the number of layers to be on hand January 1, 1957.

Table 2.- Composition of the January 1 laying flock, 1950 to date, and origins of each category

a. Pullets

Year	Number of chickens raised	Percent of farmers' chick purchases bought as sexed pullets	Presumed number of pullets in chickens raised 1/		Pullets on hand January 1, following				
					Laying	Not yet laying	Total (from unrounded data)	Total as a percent of-	
			Number	Percent				Chickens raised	"pullets" raised
	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.	Pct.
1950	(635)	32	(470)	64	229	29	258	(42)	(56)
1951	(663)	33	(431)	65	231	30	261	(42)	(64)
1952	(617)	37	(413)	67	215	23	238	(41)	(62)
1953	(609)	42	(420)	69	231	24	255	(46)	(67)
1954	540	43	373	69	233	25	257	48	70
1955	462	42	319	69	211	27	238	52	75
1956		2/43							

b. Hens

Year	Pullets on farms Jan. 1	Hens on farms Jan. 1 following	Hens as a percent of pullets
	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.
1950	287	141	49
1951	258	136	53
1952	261	135	52
1953	238	116	49
1954	255	111	44
1955	257	122	47
1956	238		

1/ Including allowance for chicks bought straight run as well as straight cockerels.

2/ Intentions.

Numbers in parentheses are figures subject to major revisions, or percentages based on such unrevised figures.

Table 3.- Poultry feeds and ingredients:
Prices January 1955 to date

Month	U. S. average value of poultry ration, per 100 lbs.		Average price paid by farmers per 100 pounds for: Laying mash		Broiler mash		Scratch grains		Weekly average carlot prices, at about mid-month converted to per 100-pound equivalent: No.2 yellow corn, Chicago		Soybean meal 44 percent Protein	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Jan.	3.80	3.39	4.77	4.36	5.20	4.79	4.28	3.93	2.74	2.26	3.92	3.09
Feb.	3.80	3.40	4.76	4.36	5.18	4.81	4.28	3.93	2.74	2.32	3.80	3.02
Mar.	3.76	3.42	4.74	4.36	5.15	4.81	4.27	3.95	2.66	2.39	3.62	2.90
Apr.	3.73	3.51	4.70	4.42	5.13	4.91	4.25	4.05	2.71	2.69	3.49	3.21
May	3.74		4.68		5.08		4.27		2.69	2.74	3.21	3.61
June	3.69		4.62		5.02		4.24		2.66		3.12	
July	3.63		4.60		5.02		4.21		2.65		3.23	
Aug.	3.54		4.53		4.95		4.14		2.16		3.25	
Sept.	3.47		4.45		4.85		4.04		2.33		3.54	
Oct.	3.44		4.47		4.88		4.01		2.16		3.34	
Nov.	3.36		4.38		4.77		3.94		2.06		2.99	
Dec.	3.38		4.36		4.78		3.93		2.31		3.06	

Feed Prices Rising

Prices of poultry feeds have been rising steadily since about mid-February. However, up to mid-April the rise in prices paid by farmers for poultry feed has been only about half the increase for wholesale feed ingredients, suggesting some further increases in prices paid by poultrymen beyond that date. At their mid-April levels, prices paid by farmers for laying and broiler mash, and for scratch feed, were lower than at the same time in 1955, but higher than in the last quarter of 1955.

The accompanying table shows the extent of the recent feed price rises. For the period covered by the table the increases per hundred pounds have been considerably smaller for mixed feeds as bought by farmers than for ingredients at wholesale.

Rising feed prices may be contributing to the tapering off of the hatches of light-breed turkeys and replacement chicks.

Table 4.- Number of layers on farms, rate of egg production, and total egg output on farms, monthly data, January 1953 to date

Item, year	Unit	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						(a) Monthly average data							
Average number of layers on hand	Mil.												
1953		346	336	324	311	296	283	273	274	295	322	339	346
1954		343	334	322	309	295	283	276	283	307	331	342	345
1955		338	328	319	306	294	283	276	280	299	321	331	334
1956		331	324	315	304								
Eggs laid per 100 layers	Eggs												
1953		1,502	1,490	1,797	1,803	1,813	1,663	1,589	1,481	1,341	1,357	1,339	1,424
1954		1,484	1,498	1,837	1,819	1,847	1,672	1,579	1,475	1,366	1,384	1,376	1,482
1955		1,548	1,491	1,800	1,844	1,900	1,751	1,672	1,536	1,418	1,444	1,412	1,492
1956		1,561	1,586	1,832	1,839								
Total monthly egg production	Mil. cs.												
1953		14.4	13.9	16.2	15.6	14.9	13.1	12.1	11.3	11.0	12.2	12.6	13.7
1954		14.2	13.9	16.4	15.6	15.1	13.1	12.1	11.6	11.7	12.7	13.1	14.2
1955		14.5	13.6	15.9	15.7	15.5	13.8	12.8	11.9	11.8	12.9	13.0	13.8
1956		14.3	14.3	16.0	15.5								
						(b) First-of-month data							
Number of layers on hand	Mil.												
1953		350	341	330	318	304	289	277	270	279	311	334	346
1954		347	339	328	316	301	289	277	274	291	323	339	346
1955		344	332	325	312	300	287	278	274	285	314	328	335
1956		332	329	319	309	299							
Eggs laid per 100 layers	Eggs												
1953		46.0	50.9	55.6	60.3	59.8	57.9	53.0	49.6	46.0	43.5	44.2	45.1
1954		46.8	48.9	58.1	60.4	60.8	58.3	53.1	48.6	46.5	44.5	44.8	46.9
1955		48.7	51.1	55.4	60.7	62.3	60.3	56.6	51.2	47.9	46.6	46.6	47.6
1956		48.7	52.0	57.4	60.8	61.8							
Daily rate of egg production	Mil. eggs												
1953		161	173	184	192	182	167	147	134	128	135	148	156
1954		162	166	191	191	183	169	147	133	135	144	152	162
1955		168	170	180	190	187	173	157	140	137	146	153	159
1956		162	171	183	188	185							

Seasonally Decreasing Production Gradually Rising Prices, Expected for Eggs

Egg production during early May was declining from its seasonal high point, but is likely to continue close to year-ago levels for another month or two. Then monthly production is likely to clearly exceed 1955, partly because of the larger number of early pullets now growing, and partly because the trend toward a rising rate of lay per 100 birds during the fall and early winter probably will continue.

On a U. S. average basis, the egg price received by farmers in mid-April, 38.5 cents per dozen, was 2-1/2 cents above a year earlier, and higher than any mid-month price received last year during April-July. Egg prices began to rise seasonally in early May, but the rise was interrupted by a break in mid-May. Prices are likely to continue above 1955 into the third quarter. However, the 1956 seasonal egg price peak is likely to occur earlier than in 1955 when it was reached in December. Egg production is likely to be rising in the last 3 months of 1956 at a rate faster than in the last quarter of 1955, because of year-to-year upward trends of lay, and because of the increased number of early-hatched pullets. Prices then are likely to be sliding off, and may be below comparable 1955 prices.

In most of the recent years when the hatch of replacement chicks was substantially reduced from a year earlier, egg prices have tended to reach the seasonal peak comparatively late. The peaks tend to come early when the hatch was increased (table 6).

Storage Down for Shell Eggs

From February 1 to May 1, net in-movement of shell eggs to storage was 330 thousand cases compared with 948 thousand cases in the same months of 1955. In 1954, when storage holdings of shell eggs were smallest on record, the comparable net in-movement was 655 thousand cases.

Unusual conditions affected the early-season storage movements in both 1955 and 1956. In 1955, prices rose to a sharp peak in mid-February, reversing the into-storage trend which had begun in January. Eggs were drawn out of storage for a 2 or 3 week period after a month-long net in-movement. In 1956, large quantities of eggs went to storage in the last 10 days of January in connection with settlement of that month's future contracts for eggs in Chicago. In the following month, there was no significant net change in total storage stocks of shell eggs. But it is likely that many of the January-stored eggs were replaced by eggs packed to standards appropriate for holding until summer or fall.

Total shell egg storage this year is unlikely to reach even the low levels of recent years. The usual end of the into-storage season is early July. Table 7 shows recent holdings. Reasons for the decline in shell egg storage are mentioned on the cover of this report, and the chart shows the extent of the decline.

Table 5.- Egg prices, selected dates, 1956, with comparisons

Item	1955					1956		
	Mar. 15	Apr. 15	May 16	June 15	July 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 20	May 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
U. S. average price received by farmers, per dozen	39.7	35.9	33.8	33.8	35.2	39.6	38.5	
Iowa: prices received by farmers per dozen 1/:								
Grade A Large	35-36	2/31-33	28-30	29-30	26-28	32-36	32-34	33-35
Grade A Medium	32-33	28-30	26-28	24-26	22-23	31-32	30-31	29-31
Current receipts	32-33	30	2/27-29	25-27	19-22	3/	3/	3/
New York, wholesale prices								
Midwestern, mixed colors per dozen:								
Fancy heavy-weights	42½-43	41-42	38-39	39-40½	37-38	44-45½	41½-43	42½-44
Extra 1, medium	41½-42	39-40	35-35½	36-37	34½-35½	41½-42½	40½-41	39½-40½
Nearby whites, per dozen:								
Extra fancy, heavy-weights	46-47	45-46½	38-39½	42-43½	44½-46½	46½-48½	42-43½	42½-44½
Medium	43½-44	43-44	35-36	38-39½	35-35½	45-45½	40-41	40½-41½
Small (pullets)	---	35-36	31½-32½	31-32	27½-28	---	---	31-32
Frozen egg, per pound 4/:								
Mixed whole egg, spring pack	30-32	30½-32½	28-31	27½-30	27½-29½	5/	32½-34	32-35
Yolk 6/	55-56	52-54	51½-53	51-53	50-52	5/	50-53	50½-53
Albumen	19½-22	19-21	18½-20½	19-21	19-21½	25½-29	23-24½	23½-25
Chicago								
Wholesale price, per dozen								
Mixed colors, extras, Large	39-39½	39-39½	34½-35	36-36½	33	39-39½	39-39½	38½
Future contracts:								
September delivery (closing price)	44.30	44.75	41.70	41.55	35.35	43.65	43.75	44.40
San Francisco, wholesale price, per dozen:								
Grade A, Large	45½-46½	40½-41½	40½-41½	39½-40½	43½-44½	45½-46½	41½-42½	43-44
Grade A, Medium	44-44½	39-39½	39-39½	39-39½	41-41½	45-45½	39-39½	37-38

1/ "Mostly," except where otherwise stated. 2/ Complete price range; not "mostly." 3/ Current receipts not quoted after July 1955. 4/ Carlots. Weekly price. 5/ Insufficient sales to report prices. 6/ Highest color quoted.

Table 6.- Size and monthly distribution of laying flock replacement activity, and occurrence of peak of fall egg prices, 1946 to date

Year	Month in which peak of fall egg prices occurred 1/	Chickens raised		Hatchery output of chicks		
		Number	Percent of year earlier	Jan.-Apr.	Jan.-June	Jan.-Apr. as a percent of Jan.-June
		Millions	Percent	Millions	Millions	Percent
1946	October	738	83	777	1,055	74
1947	December	719	98	740	1,061	70
1948	November	615	85	651	955	68
1949	September	705	115	786	1,161	68
1950	December	635	90	780	1,099	71
1951	November	663	104	845	1,258	67
1952	November	617	93	895	1,227	73
1953	October	609	99	860	1,226	70
1954	August	540	89	951	1,306	73
1955	December	462	86	805	1,174	69

1/ July-December.

Less Frozen Eggs in Storage; Out-of-Season Breaking Expected to Exceed 1955

Storage holdings of frozen egg are also below year-ago levels, although not so much as shell eggs. At 94 million pounds on May 1, total stocks were 25 percent below last year. The difference from 1955 varied among products. Holdings of frozen yolk were 11 percent smaller; of frozen albumen, 31 percent smaller, and mixed whole egg and blend, also 31 percent smaller.

The price differences from last year shown in table 9 more or less reflect the differences in the composition of this year's stocks compared with a year ago. The general level of prices for frozen mixed whole egg, as well as for breaking stock, is only slightly above last year.

The reported storage holdings of egg solids (dried egg products) are above last year. The breakdown for dried albumen, yolk, and whole egg is not known, nor is there information regarding the extent of dried stocks in non-reporting positions.

Table 7.- Storage stocks of shell eggs: First-of-month, U. S., 1950 to date; weekly, 35 cities, June 1955 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases
					(a) Monthly, U. S.							
1950	110	380	735	1,296	2,147	3,412	3,667	3,163	2,568	1,558	502	61
1951	34	75	159	309	973	2,083	2,427	2,270	1,615	958	527	230
1952	141	238	942	1,596	2,184	3,184	3,357	2,728	2,169	1,709	1,000	393
1953	153	120	248	375	816	1,431	1,513	1,199	827	494	288	137
1954	89	73	133	442	728	1,348	1,639	1,435	1,031	833	636	325
1955	193	235	258	479	1,183	2,088	2,292	2,244	1,680	1,140	804	333
1956	111	299	306	312	629							
					(b) Weekly, 35 cities							
Weeks	1956					1955						
First	72	255	248	252	556	1,664	1,783	1,675	1,276	919	594	261
Second	68	265	249	295	644	1,725	1,782	1,584	1,208	854	517	197
Third	73	258	240	369	737	1,775	1,769	1,477	1,086	806	428	149
Fourth	207	247	236	461		1,780	1,760	1,376	985	741	342	120
Fifth			229				1,728			673		84

Table 8.- Storage stocks of frozen egg: First-of-month, U. S., 1950 to date; weekly, 35 cities, June 1955 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
					(a) Monthly, U. S.							
1950	54	55	73	117	155	180	188	175	155	133	104	76
1951	47	31	33	62	109	163	190	191	176	151	122	95
1952	67	53	61	84	111	146	166	163	144	124	95	72
1953	50	35	42	65	99	132	160	153	133	110	87	61
1954	42	38	42	92	136	167	186	181	161	139	118	95
1955	75	66	63	84	126	171	194	195	180	155	128	101
1956	74	51	42	59								
					(b) Weekly, 35 cities							
Weeks	1956					1955						
First	40	29	25	36	51	88	103	107	100	87	69	56
Second	37	28	25	39	56	93	105	107	98	83	66	52
Third	35	27	28	43	60	97	105	105	95	80	62	49
Fourth	32	26	30	47		100	106	103	91	76	59	45
Fifth			31				107			72		43

Table 9 .- Frozen egg, by types: Stocks and New York wholesale prices per pound, 1956 to date with 1955 comparisons

Item	Year	Unit	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
Albumen								
Stocks on first of month	1955	Mil. lb.	25	21	20	25	37	50
	1956	Mil. lb.	17	11	9	15	25	
Average prices, first full week of month	1955	Ct.	15 3/4	20	21	18 3/4	19	19 1/2
	1956	Ct.	27	28	27 1/2	23 3/4	24 1/4	
Yolk 1/								
Stocks on first of month	1955	Mil. lb.	18	16	17	23	32	43
	1956	Mil. lb.	23	18	15	20	29	
Average prices, first full week of month	1955	Ct.	2/	2/	2/	50 1/4	53	52
	1956	Ct.	54 1/2	54 1/2	53	50 1/2	51 3/4	
Mixed whole 3/								
Stocks on first of month	1955	Mil. lb.	29	25	23	32	52	71
	1956	Mil. lb.	29	19	15	20	35	
Average prices, first full week of month	1955	Ct.	26	32 3/4	32 1/2	28 1/4	29 1/4	28 1/2
	1956	Ct.	34 1/4	33 1/2	2/	31 3/4	33 1/2	

1/ Highest color quoted. 2/ Insufficient wholesale sales to report prices. 3/ "Spring pack" whenever quoted separately.
"Unclassified" frozen egg is not included in this table.

Because requirements for egg products are likely to be similar to those of recent years, this year's small springtime stocks of frozen egg will probably be supplemented to a greater extent than last year by liquid egg produced in the fall and winter. If this occurs, the spread between prices of top and lower quality eggs is likely to be narrower than usual in the last quarter of the year.

Table 10 shows that Iowa country-point prices for eggs of various grades were closer together this year than in other recent years: The prices of Grade A large and Grade B and others showed less spread than in other years when current receipts were legally quoted. This year, the new Iowa egg law, and similar legislation in other States, restricts or discourages the sale of eggs as current receipts, which had been popular as breaking stock. This restriction had the effect of transferring the demand for eggs for breaking to the lowest-priced available grade (yield and costs of breaking considered), and supported the prices of undergrades in a close relationship to Grade A large.

Table 10.- Eggs: Paying prices per dozen by grades, at country points in Iowa, first Friday of March, April, and May, 1950 to date

	Prices per dozen, "mostly"					Difference between Grade A large and -		
	Current receipts	Grade A large or better	Grade A, medium	Grade B, large	C's, dirty, and checks	Current receipts	Grade B, large	Grade C, dirty and checks
	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.
				a. March				
1950	26-27	29-30	---	23-25	20-23	3.0	5.5	8.0
1951	38-39	41	37-39	37-39	33-37	2.5	3.0	6.0
1952	27-28	31	27-28	27-28	23-24	3.5	3.5	7.5
1953	38-40	1/41-44	35-38	35-38	2/27-30	3.5	6.0	14.0
1954	35-36	36-37	33-34	33-34	2/29-30	1.0	3.0	7.0
1955	1/35-37	38-39	33-36	33-36	30-33	2.5	4.0	7.0
1956	---	30-32	28-30	28-30	26-28	---	2.0	4.0
				b. April				
1950	26-27	27-28	---	1/23-26	20-24	1.0	3.0	5.5
1951	36-37	38-39	35-36	35-36	32-34	2.0	3.0	5.5
1952	28-29	1/32-34	27-28	27-28	22-25	4.5	5.5	9.5
1953	38-40	41-42	37-38	37-38	2/30-34	2.5	4.0	9.5
1954	25-26	29-30	27-28	27-28	2/24-26	4.0	2.0	4.5
1955	26-27	28-30	25-27	25-27	2/22-24	2.5	3.0	6.0
1956	---	33-35	30-32	30-32	27-30	---	3.0	5.5
				c. May				
1950	25	26-27	---	23-25	22	1.5	2.5	4.5
1951	41-42	44-45	40-42	40-42	35-37	3.0	3.5	8.5
1952	27-29	31-32	26-28	26-28	23-24	3.5	4.5	8.0
1953	42-43	44-45	38-41	38-41	2/30-34	2.0	5.0	12.5
1954	27	29-30	1/25-27	1/25-27	22-23	2.5	3.5	7.0
1955	27-28	29-30	26-27	26-27	23-24	2.0	3.0	6.0
1956	---	31-33	27-30	28-30	25-28	---	3.0	5.5

1/ Price range; not mostly.

2/ "Undergrades."

Broilers: Record Placements, Prices Below 1955

Weekly broiler slaughter has exceeded corresponding 1955 output since the beginning of 1956. Cumulative slaughter to mid-May was about one-third above last year. In mid-May, the number of broilers growing for marketing in the following 9-11 weeks, and the number of eggs in incubators, was about one-fifth above 1955. Combined, these data suggest that from January through August the 1956 production of broilers will exceed 1955 by 22-25 percent.

The prospective large supplies of broilers for the next few months would seem to head off expectations for any substantial price increase from recent levels (mid-April U. S. average farm price: 20.5 cents per pound). On the other hand, demand for broilers usually increases in the summer. This may hold broiler prices near present levels, despite the fact that marketings will be at record levels.

Later in the year, output is likely to exceed 1955 by a considerably narrower margin, or may even fall below. With broiler prices continuing below a year earlier, and the price of broiler mash moving upward, broiler placements are likely to taper off.

Turkeys: Hatch Continues Large For Heavy Breeds; Fewer Light Breed Poults

The 1956 turkey crop is likely to be record large, with an increase in heavy-breed turkeys overshadowing the decrease in light-breed turkeys. The previous record turkey crop was 67.7 million birds of all breeds in 1954. The 1955 crop was 65.6 million birds.

Hatchings of heavy-breed turkeys in January-April were 36 percent greater than in the corresponding 1955 period and on the first of May, 15 percent more eggs were in incubators than on the 1955 date. Thus, the percentage increase for the entire 1956 crop will be smaller than the cumulative hatch to May 1, but nevertheless substantial. Mid-summer hatchings are likely to move down toward year-ago levels. Furthermore, fewer poults were hatched in October-December 1955 than a year earlier, and these poults are considered as part of the 1956 crop. It appears that about 11 or 12 million more heavy-breed poults will be hatched by June 1 this year than last. After allowance is made for mortality, this would indicate a one-fifth increase in the heavy-breed crop, excluding possible small increases in later months. The 1955 crop of heavy-breed turkeys was 48.8 million, in 1954 it was 48.5 million.

Perhaps because white-feathered heavy-breed birds have been developed, which can be marketed earlier and compete in the weight classes where light-breed birds are sold, numbers of light-breed turkeys are now declining. They now represent a smaller percentage of the crop than in any of the past 4 years. On the basis of hatchings from September 1955 to May 1, and with allowance for hatchings in May on the basis of eggs in incubators early in the month,

Table 11.- Broilers: Monthly hatchings, average weekly placements in specialized areas, and U. S. average farmers' prices, January 1954 to date

Month	Hatchings			Weekly rate of placements, 22 States			U. S. average mid-month price to farmers, per pound		
	1954 1/	1955	1956	1954	1955	1956	1954	1955	1956
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.
January		79	109		16.0	21.4	24.2	24.3	20.3
February		95	112		20.1	23.5	22.6	25.2	21.4
March	107	105	130		20.4	25.2	23.5	29.4	21.9
April	112	115	133		22.1	26.5	24.3	28.6	20.5
May	109	121	2/		22.6		23.7	26.8	
June	95	112			22.8		24.4	27.3	
July		110			22.1		25.4	26.6	
August		96			19.4		24.9	26.8	
September		85			17.7		23.0	25.5	
October	74	92		3/14.4	18.5		21.0	22.3	
November	76	95		15.4	19.4		20.1	21.5	
December	71	102		14.0	20.5		19.2	19.4	
Total or average		1,207			1,050.2		23.0	25.3	

1/ Derived.
2/ On May 1, eggs in incubators were 121 percent of 1955.
3/ Based on 3 weeks.

Table 12.- Broilers: Average prices per pound in selected producing areas and wholesale markets, late February 1956, with comparisons

Item and area	Weight class	Full week at mid-month 1/			
		1955	1956		
		April	January	April	May
	Pounds	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Live broilers sold by farmers					
Boston area	3 1/2-4 1/4	26.1	16.2	19.5	19.5
Del-Mar-Va	2 1/2-3 1/2	26.4	19.4	20.7	20.6
Shenandoah Valley	2 3/4-3 1/2	24.6	18.4	20.1	20.2
North Carolina, Cent.	2 1/2-3	26.3	18.5	19.8	20.0
North Georgia	2 1/2-3 3/4	25.5	18.4	20.4	20.4
Texas, East	2 1/2-3 1/2	26.1	19.7	21.1	22.0
Arkansas, N. W.	2 1/2-3 1/4	25.3	18.7	20.8	21.3
San Joaquin Valley, Calif.	"Fryers"	28.1	22.2	21.5	
U. S. average	---	28.4	20.3	20.5	
Dressed broilers at wholesale					
New York dressed					
New York	3	32.7	24.7	26.8	26.7
Ready-to-cook					
New York	2-3	44.8	33.8	34.8	35.5
Chicago	1 3/4-3 1/4	42.8	32.0	33.6	33.8

1/ Except U. S. average price, which is for mid-month.

Table 13.- Turkeys: Monthly hatchings of poults, by breed types, September 1953 to date

Year, month	For the month			Cumulative, years beginning Sept.		
	Heavy breeds	Light breeds	All turkeys	Heavy breeds	Light breeds	All turkeys
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
1953 September	1/	.4	.4	1/	.4	.4
October	1/	.4	.4	1/	.8	.8
November	.1	.7	.8	.1	1.5	1.6
December	.3	1.3	1.6	.4	2.8	3.2
1954 January	1.2	1.8	3.0	1.6	4.6	6.2
February	3.4	1.7	5.1	5.0	6.3	11.3
March	9.4	1.8	11.2	14.4	8.1	22.5
April	13.9	2.3	16.2	28.3	10.4	38.7
May	13.4	3.3	16.7	41.7	13.7	55.4
June	7.7	3.0	10.7	49.4	16.7	66.1
July	1.4	2.4	3.8	50.8	19.1	69.9
August	.1	1.3	1.4	50.9	20.4	71.3
September	1/	.7	.7	1/	.7	.7
October	.1	.7	.8	.1	1.4	1.5
November	.2	1.0	1.2	.3	2.4	2.7
December	.5	1.7	2.2	.8	4.1	4.9
1955 January	1.2	1.4	2.6	2.0	5.5	7.5
February	2.7	1.1	3.8	4.7	6.6	11.3
March	7.8	1.1	8.9	12.5	7.7	20.2
April	12.8	1.8	14.6	25.3	9.5	34.8
May	14.8	2.4	17.2	40.1	11.9	52.0
June	9.0	2.6	11.6	49.1	14.5	63.6
July	2.1	2.2	4.3	51.2	16.7	67.9
August	.3	1.2	1.5	51.5	17.9	69.4
September	.1	.4	.5	.1	.4	.5
October	.2	.3	.5	.3	.7	1.0
November	.4	.5	.9	.7	1.2	1.9
December	1.0	.9	1.9	1.7	2.1	3.8
1956 January	1.9	.9	2.8	3.6	3.0	6.6
February	4.8	.8	5.6	8.4	3.8	12.2
March	11.1	1.0	12.1	19.5	4.8	24.3
April	15.7	1.5	17.2	35.2	6.3	41.5

1/ Less than .05 million.

1956 production of light-breed turkeys will be down about 20 percent from last year's crop of 16.8 million raised. This estimate allows for mortality, and assumes that June, July, and August hatchings will be only slightly below 1955 hatchings for those months. The peak number of lightweight turkeys raised was in 1954, when the crop was 19.2 million. In 1950, only 5 million were raised, and prior to that their numbers were so few that they were not officially estimated.

Farmers' current marketings of turkeys are seasonally small, except for breeder hens. Average prices received by farmers, 30.9 cents per pound (live) in mid-April, were 1.2 cents higher than last year at the same time, and did not reflect sharp rises in the last few months in the price of frozen heavy toms. In New York City, heavy toms (22-24 pounds each, ready-to-cook) which were quoted at 63 cents per pound on May 16, had been 45 cents in mid-December 1955, and 48 cents in mid-May 1955. Current small holdings of stored turkeys, lowest for the month since 1949, are a factor in present prices for toms, which are used in commercial eating places and institutions, and which are not subject to close competition from the small turkeys which normally go to household uses.

In late summer or early fall, when large volume marketings will be made from the larger turkey crop now growing, prices are likely to fall below those prevailing in 1955. At that time the short supply in storage will no longer be a price-supporting factor, because the usual trend then is for part of the seasonally-increasing supply to move into storage.

IMPLICATIONS OF NEW BENCHMARKS FOR POULTRY STATISTICS

The revisions in USDA estimates of egg production and consumption, described in the last issue of The Poultry and Egg Situation, indicate that the egg sector of the poultry industry had been operating on a considerably smaller scale in recent years than had been believed. Numbers of layers, total egg production, and the per capita consumption of shell eggs for 1951-55 are now indicated at levels lower than previously estimated.

The publication of these revised estimates forces a reconsideration of some of the judgments which had been made on the basis of the old data. Some generalizations and benchmarks which seemed valid until recently must now be discarded; others, reviewed and tempered.

One concerns the nature of the demand for eggs. With the consumption per person series now about holding steady at the 1947-49 average, and with relative (deflated) prices for eggs declining as they have during the past 10 years, the per person demand for eggs, measured by either farm or retail prices, would seem to have declined. Previously, increases in per person consumption were considered offsets to the declining price (measured in real terms), and the per person demand for eggs was considered to be stable, if not actually rising in response to growing consumer incomes, new uses for egg products, improved egg quality, and promotional efforts.

This development cannot be attributed to widening spreads between the farmer and consumer, because the most recent spreads, in cents per dozen, are about the same as during 1947-49.

Another commonly-held belief which now requires review is that cost-cutting efficiencies in production have offset much of the decline in egg prices, and that the average prices of recent years have not deterred expansion in egg production. Present estimates indicate that egg production since 1950 has increased at a slower rate than population growth.

One of the uses to which egg handlers put supply estimates is to judge their relative shares in the total volume of the industry. Every handler of eggs likes to increase or at least to maintain the share of the industry's total output that he handles, because to do otherwise is to lose ground to competitors. The new benchmark will reveal to many firms that their status is better than had been indicated by the old data.

The new data reduce the numbers of chickens raised and the adult chicken population. The data on hatchery output show no corresponding revisions. Therefore, upward revisions will have to be made in the residual item which includes the mortality incurred in raising chickens, and the baby chicks destroyed (such as the sexed cockerels which are separated from egg-type pullet chicks).

Concurrent with the other revisions, estimates of average rate of lay per bird were increased. The description of such a trend, previously apparent, was accelerated by the determination that an increased proportion of the chickens in the national laying flock were in higher-producing flocks of over 400 layers. In 1955, the U. S. rate of lay per average layer kept during the year was 192 eggs, with 15 States, (including the 3 with most layers: Iowa, Minnesota, California) above 200 eggs.

Table 13a.-. Annual egg production, prices, and per capita consumption, 1946 to date

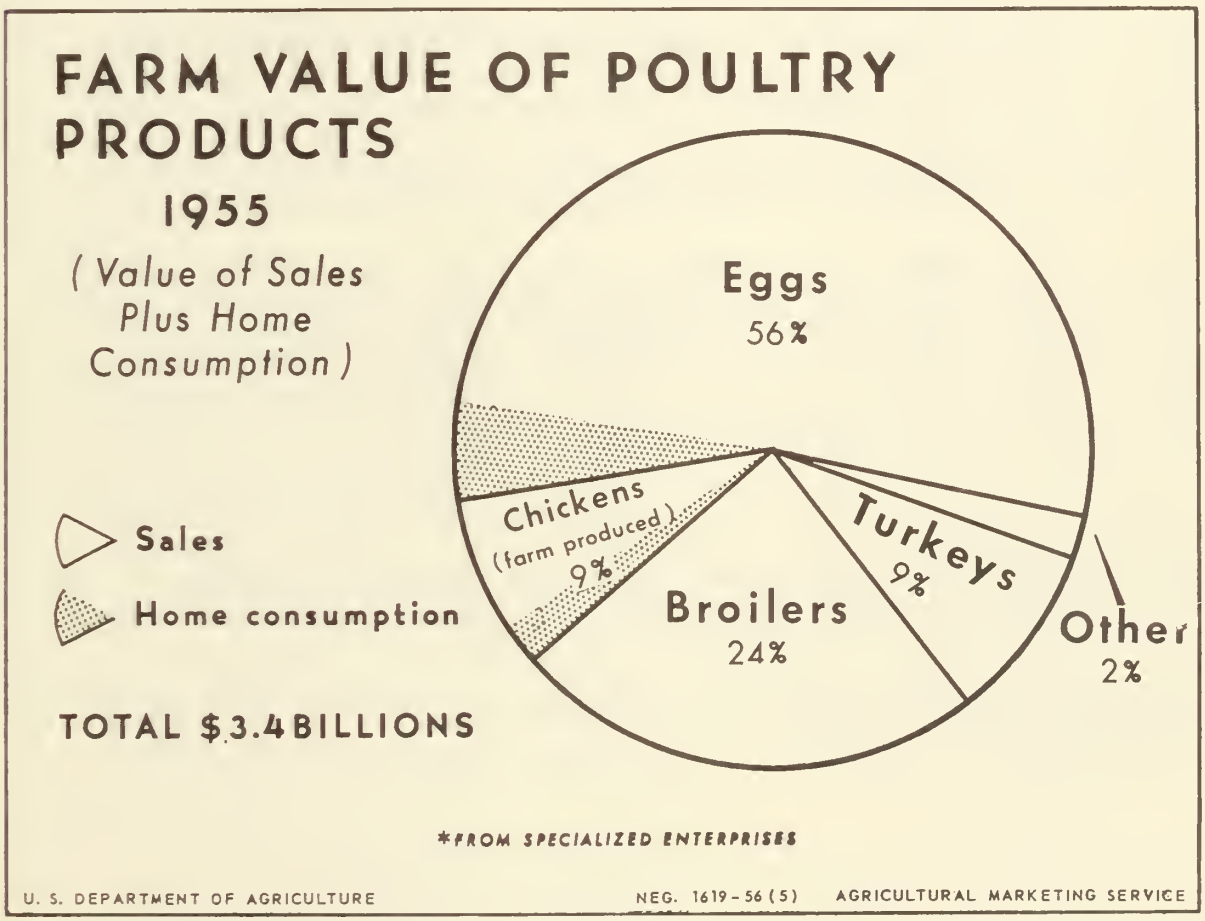
Year	Egg production on farms: Total	Egg production on farms: Average rate of lay: Per layer kept during the year	Egg production on farms: Average rate of lay: Per hen and pullet on farms Jan. 1	Egg price, dozen: Average price received by farmers	Egg price, dozen: Average retail price (AMS)	Egg price, dozen: Farm-retail price spread 1/	Index of retail food prices, B.L.S. 1947-49 =100	AMS retail egg prices deflated by index of food prices	Per capita egg consumption: Shell	Per capita egg consumption: Total
	Mil. doz.	No.	No.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.		Ct.	No.	No.
1946	4,663.7	156	118	37.6	55.3	14.9	79.0	70.0		
1947	4,615.3	160	128	45.3	65.8	18.0	95.9	68.6	353	378
1948	4,574.9	166	131	47.2	68.4	19.0	104.1	65.7	356	384
1949	4,679.6	170	141	45.2	65.9	19.1	100.0	65.9	353	378
1950	4,913.0	172	139	36.3	57.1	19.1	101.2	56.4	359	384
1951	4,838.7	175	145	47.8	69.7	20.3	112.6	61.9	360	387
1952	4,839.1	178	146	41.6	63.6	20.4	114.6	55.5	357	385
1953	4,824.4	183	155	47.7	66.8	17.8	112.8	59.2	349	374
1954	4,911.2	188	159	36.6	56.2	18.7	112.6	49.9	347	371
1955	4,957.3	192	161	38.9	58.0	18.0	110.9	52.3	342	366

1/ Computed to allow for breakage and loss, etc.

Gross Income from Eggs and Poultry in 1955: Up from 1954, but Short of Record

Aggregate production of eggs and poultry meat in 1955 was about the same as in 1954, but prices averaged higher for each of the 4 principal commodities (eggs, broilers, farm chickens, turkeys). As a result, farmers' gross income from eggs and poultry was 6 percent higher than in 1954.

Although USDA does not maintain records of net income from poultry enterprises, net income from this type of farming in 1955 obviously exceeded 1954, because of higher prices for the products and lower feed costs. In view of the relatively stable aggregate output, the poultry industry's 1955 total feed requirements were probably about the same as a year earlier, but the 1955 average value of poultry ration, at $3.61 per cwt., was 7 percent lower than in 1954. Feed is the poultryman's largest cash expense, and it is unlikely that other expenses rose enough to offset the reduction on feed.



Despite the continued near record volume of output, and the higher average prices than a year earlier, aggregate gross income from poultry, at 3.4 billion dollars, was not a record in 1955. The presently indicated level, which reflects the new benchmarks in the estimation of egg and poultry production, is about 8 percent lower than would have been indicated on the estimating bases in use in late 1955. 1/ The previously-indicated high marks of poultry income, about 4 billion dollars in 1951 and again in 1953, are also being revised downward, but by smaller percentage reductions than the more recent years.

For 1956, farmers' gross income from eggs is likely to exceed 1955. Prices have averaged above a year ago, and are likely to continue above last year to late summer or early fall. Afterward monthly average prices may be below 1955, but the annual average price is likely to be higher than the 38.9 cent-per-dozen average of 1955. The total volume of egg production will exceed the 165 million cases of eggs produced on farms in 1955. Most of the increase in production will come after mid-year.

Gross income from broilers in 1956 is also likely to be above last year. Although prices to date are down 20 to 25 percent from last year, production to date is up about a third. Similar relationships to last year are in prospect to mid-August. Later in the year, both broiler production and prices are likely to more closely approach last year's levels. At current price relationships, the net income from broiler production is below 1955, because lower current feed costs, new production efficiencies, and increased volume have not offset the broiler price decline.

The 1956 turkey crop is likely to exceed 1955 by 10 percent or more. Prices so far this year, for seasonally-small sales, are above 1955, and do not yet reflect supplies from the main crop of 1956. If fall and winter turkey supplies come up to the level indicated by current hatchings, price decreases from a year earlier will offset the increased volume, and gross income may not change very much from 1955. Net income to producers would be down, however, under those circumstances.

The outlook for net farm income from eggs and poultry is directly affected by the price of feed. Currently, the cost of poultry ration is lower than this time last year, but it is higher than during the last quarter of 1954, and current trends are upward. Table 3 compares recent prices of poultry feeds with monthly prices from January 1955.

1/ The bases for this revision were explained in the March-April issue of The Poultry and Egg Situation.

Table 14.- Gross income from poultry and eggs, 1940 to date

Year	Eggs		Farm chickens		Turkeys			Totals 4/			Other poultry 7/ 8/
	Value of sales	Value of consumption on farms 1/	Value of sales	Value of consumption on farms 1/	Value of sales	Value of consumption on farms 1/	Commercial broilers 2/ 3/	Value of sales	Value of consumption on farms 5/	Gross income 6/	
	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.
1940	467.8	114.6	195.9	89.9	77.0	2.6	71.6	812.3	207.1	1,019.4	17
1941	663.4	144.2	261.0	106.6	97.6	3.0	103.0	1,124.9	253.9	1,378.8	21
1942	1,017.7	179.1	383.6	126.6	143.7	3.5	154.6	1,699.6	309.2	2,008.8	29
1943	1,445.6	222.2	688.2	163.9	158.4	3.8	238.3	2,530.4	390.0	2,920.4	48
1944	1,365.3	205.6	626.9	152.6	195.8	3.6	235.3	2,423.2	361.8	2,785.0	48
1945	1,518.1	233.3	676.6	175.4	241.4	4.0	327.1	2,763.1	412.6	3,175.7	58
1946	1,507.9	235.1	639.2	175.1	268.5	4.4	288.6	2,704.2	414.6	3,118.8	54
1947	1,813.2	264.6	567.8	159.3	231.5	4.3	302.2	2,914.7	428.1	3,342.8	47
1948	1,883.8	261.3	542.7	168.1	257.4	5.3	405.2	3,089.0	434.7	3,523.7	50
1949	1,856.9	246.0	496.6	146.8	263.1	4.3	442.5	3,059.1	397.2	3,456.2	55
1950											
1951											
1952											
1953											
1954	1,627.4	168.0	252.9	79.7	330.8	3.6	746.9	2,958.0	251.3	3,209.3	58
1955 9/	1,745.9	175.8	228.6	81.2	325.7	3.4	834.2	3,134.4	260.5	3,394.9	

1/ Consumed in households of farm producers.
2/ Value of production.
3/ Includes consumption in households of producers, which is less than 1 percent of production.
4/ Obtained from unrounded figures.
5/ For eggs, farm chickens, and turkeys only.
6/ Value of sales plus home consumption.
7/ Revised.
8/ Not included in totals shown in previous columns.
9/ Preliminary.

Table 15.- Statistical series indicative of the volume of egg and poultry output, its value, and cost and profit factors, 1940 to date

Year	(a) Volume of output: Index of poultry and egg production (1947-49=100)	(a) Volume of output on farms: Eggs produced	Farm chickens produced (head)	Broilers produced (head)	Turkeys raised (head)	(b) General price level and costs: Indexes of farmers' prices - (1910-14=100): Received for all farm products	Paid for: Feed	Farm wage rates	All commodities	Prices paid for: Baby chicks, per 100	Poults, per 100	Average value of U.S. poultry ration, per cwt. 1/
		Mil. cs.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.					Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
1940	70	110.3	555.6	142.8	34.0	100	100	131	122	8.70	32.4	1.68
1941	77	116.4	664.1	191.5	32.6	124	108	160	130	9.01	32.9	1.83
1942	89	135.0	751.8	228.2	32.5	159	132	208	149	11.33	39.2	2.21
1943	102	151.5	913.7	285.3	31.8	193	156	274	165	13.90	56.3	2.66
1944	102	162.6	724.9	274.1	35.1	197	173	328	174	15.00	69.7	2.94
1945	106	156.2	799.1	365.6	42.9	207	172	366	179	15.50	75.9	2.91
1946	99	155.4	646.5	292.5	40.1	236	200	399	197	15.70	71.5	3.47
1947	98	153.8	635.7	310.2	34.0	276	236	424	230	16.40	69.3	4.17
1948	96	152.5	536.1	370.5	31.5	287	250	445	250	18.70	81.9	4.29
1949	106	156.0	622.8	513.3	41.3	250	206	430	240	19.40	84.5	3.46
1950	111*	163.8	550.6*	630.8	43.8	258	210	432	246	18.80	76.5	3.58
1951	119*	161.3	577.8*	805.6	52.5	302	236	481	271	20.20	78.8	4.01
1952	123*	161.3	524.6*	886.8	60.9	288	251	508	273	21.20	75.0	4.21
1953	127*	160.8	518.4*	957.2	57.1	258	227	517	262	22.50	72.7	3.86
1954 5/	125	163.7	454.8	1,047.8	67.7	249	226	508	263	24.70	72.2	3.87
1955 6/	123	165.2	377.4	1,078.3	65.6	237	212	519	262	24.60	68.8	3.61

Year	(c) Prices received by farmers for eggs and poultry: Index of egg and poultry prices (1910-14=100)	Eggs: Per dozen	Eggs: As a percentage of parity 2/	Chickens: Broilers, per pound	Chickens: Farm chickens, per pound	Chickens: All chickens: Per pound	Chickens: All chickens: As a percentage of parity 3/	Turkeys: Per pound	Turkeys: As a percentage of parity 3/	(d) Poultry-product/feed price ratios: U. S. average ratios 4/: Egg-feed	Farm chicken-feed	Turkey-feed	Broiler-feed price ratio, Del-Mar-Va peninsula
		Ct.	Pct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Pct.	Ct.	Pct.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1940	98	18.0	72	17.3	13.0	13.9	92	15.2	78	10.7	7.7	9.0	
1941	122	23.5	88	18.4	15.6	16.3	104	19.9	89	12.8	8.5	10.9	
1942	152	30.0	99	22.9	18.7	19.8	111	27.5	101	13.6	8.5	12.4	
1943	191	37.1	114	28.6	24.3	25.3	133	32.7	128	13.9	9.1	12.3	
1944	177	32.5	95	28.8	23.7	24.9	125	33.9	131	11.1	8.1	11.5	
1945	198	37.7	107	29.5	25.9	27.0	132	33.7	135	13.0	8.9	11.6	
1946	201	37.6	96	32.7	27.6	29.0	123	36.3	121	10.8	8.0	10.5	
1947	223	45.3	94	32.3	26.5	28.2	102	36.5	96	10.9	6.4	8.8	
1948	242	47.2	90	36.0	30.1	32.3	104	46.8	115	11.0	7.0	10.9	
1949	221	45.2	88	28.2	25.4	26.6	96	35.2	109	13.1	7.3	10.2	5.9
1950	186	36.3	72	27.4	22.3	24.9	78	32.8	86	10.1	6.2	9.2	5.4
1951	228	47.8	91	28.6	25.1	27.1	86	37.4	90	11.9	6.3	9.3	5.1
1952	206	41.6	82	28.8	22.3	26.2	83	33.6	84	9.9	5.3	8.0	5.2
1953	221	47.7	101	27.1	22.3	25.3	83	33.6	87	12.4	5.8	8.7	5.1
1954 5/	176	36.6	80	23.1	16.8	21.1	71	28.8	80	9.5	4.3	7.4	4.4
1955 6/	188	38.9	85	25.2	18.6	23.4	81	30.2	80	10.8	5.2	8.4	5.4

1/ Average of prices paid for commercial feed and prices received for grains. 2/ Transitional parity for 1950 was 95 percent; 1951, 90 percent; 1952, 85 percent; 1953, 80 percent, of parity as computed prior to 1950. 3/ Beginning 1950, modernized parity replaced the old formula for chickens and turkeys. 4/ Based on weighted annual average price of product. 5/ Revised. 6/ Preliminary. *Subject to revision.

Table 16.- Eggs: Production, annual rate per potential layer, and disposition, United States, 1920 to date

Year	Hens and pullets on farms Jan. 1	Eggs produced			Eggs consumed on farms where produced	Eggs sold	Average annual price, per dozen	Value of eggs sold and consumed
		Total	Per layer on hand during year	Per hen and pullet on farms Jan. 1				
	Thou.	Mil.	No.	No.	Mil.	Mil.	Ct	Thou. dol.
1920	341,474	29,700		87	7,100	21,556	43.5	1,038,780
1921	331,632	30,800		93	7,300	22,398	28.3	700,377
1922	353,875	33,000		93	7,600	24,267	25.0	663,895
1923	371,930	35,000		94	7,500	26,392	26.5	748,447
1924	389,626	34,592		89	7,221	26,333	26.7	741,225
1925	390,517	34,969	112	90	7,086	26,910	30.4	856,964
1926	393,849	37,248	118	95	7,378	28,845	28.9	870,312
1927	414,875	38,627	117	93	7,612	29,958	25.1	781,600
1928	427,139	38,659	119	91	7,413	30,268	28.1	877,374
1929	403,774	37,921	119	94	7,147	29,779	29.8	911,882
1930	420,451	39,067	121	93	7,519	30,613	23.7	750,603
1931	401,776	38,532	127	96	7,995	29,628	17.6	546,072
1932	385,826	36,298	121	94	7,992	27,415	14.2	412,335
1933	390,743	35,514	118	91	7,922	26,737	13.8	394,315
1934	385,341	34,429	118	89	7,406	26,266	17.0	473,561
1935	350,407	33,609	122	96	7,205	25,739	23.4	635,834
1936	362,619	34,534	121	95	7,416	26,448	21.8	610,509
1937	379,754	37,564	130	99	7,884	29,162	21.3	651,582
1938	352,964	37,356	135	106	8,204	28,624	20.3	616,528
1939	376,141	38,843	134	103	8,238	30,092	17.4	551,093
1940	392,655	39,707	134	101	8,035	31,236	18.0	582,391
1941	381,315	41,894	139	110	7,652	33,811	23.5	807,599
1942	427,911	48,610	142	114	7,425	40,753	30.0	1,196,819
1943	488,959	54,547	142	112	7,349	46,719	37.1	1,667,790
1944	523,587	58,537	148	112	7,711	50,462	32.5	1,570,877
1945	473,880	56,221	152	119	7,502	48,365	37.7	1,751,381
1946	472,820	55,962	156	118	7,551	48,148	37.6	1,743,016
1947	431,446	55,384	160	128	7,133	48,029	45.3	2,077,719
1948	417,570	54,899	166	131	6,800	47,903	47.2	2,145,041
1949	399,380	56,154	170	141	6,685	49,282	45.2	2,102,955
1950	423,773	58,954		139				
1951	399,338	58,063		145				
1952	397,234	58,068		146				
1953	373,013	57,892		155				
1954 1/	370,970	58,933	188	159	5,530	53,316	36.6	1,795,348
1955 2/	368,595	59,485	192	161	5,534	53,876	38.9	1,921,737
1956	359,696							

1/ Revised. 2/ Preliminary.

Table 17.- Eggs: Production, annual rate per January 1 layer, and disposition, by States and regions, 1955 1/

State and region	Hens and pullets on farms, Jan. 1	Eggs produced			Eggs consumed on farms where produced	Eggs sold	Average annual price, per dozen	Value of eggs sold and consumed
		Total	Per layer kept during the year	Per hen and pullet on farms Jan. 1 2/				
	Thou.	Mil.		No.	Mil.	Mil.	Ct.	Thou. dol.
Maine	3,759	695	211	185	23	671	51.6	29,842
New Hampshire	2,585	436	202	169	12	423	52.1	18,886
Vermont	1,087	207	212	190	19	188	51.8	8,935
Massachusetts	4,074	704	209	173	16	686	53.5	31,297
Rhode Island	464	80	208	172	2	78	52.3	3,486
Connecticut	3,748	663	205	177	17	646	52.4	28,951
New York	11,980	2,121	202	177	123	1,997	48.5	85,683
New Jersey	14,643	2,433	189	166	29	2,402	49.1	99,469
Pennsylvania	21,440	3,654	198	170	175	3,476	46.0	139,955
North Atlantic	63,780	10,993	199	172	416	10,567	48.8	446,504
Ohio	14,241	2,366	194	166	211	2,153	38.7	76,239
Indiana	13,728	2,289	196	167	166	2,121	34.0	64,798
Illinois	18,055	3,064	193	170	232	2,830	32.0	81,654
Michigan	10,108	1,690	194	167	145	1,544	37.7	53,062
Wisconsin	13,292	2,328	199	175	197	2,129	36.8	71,330
East North Central	69,424	11,737	195	169	951	10,777	35.5	347,083
Minnesota	24,465	4,287	201	175	237	4,049	32.6	116,437
Iowa	28,446	4,855	207	171	309	4,543	31.9	128,982
Missouri	14,419	2,132	183	148	260	1,869	30.5	54,112
North Dakota	3,812	560	177	147	86	473	28.5	13,276
South Dakota	8,107	1,234	184	152	97	1,136	29.7	30,517
Nebraska	11,095	1,790	194	161	166	1,622	29.0	43,210
Kansas	10,288	1,723	193	167	196	1,525	30.7	44,029
West North Central	100,632	16,581	197	165	1,351	15,217	31.2	430,563
Delaware	830	126	186	152	8	118	43.3	4,547
Maryland	2,636	406	180	154	37	369	42.8	14,481
Virginia	6,017	843	177	140	163	679	45.8	32,136
West Virginia	2,748	398	175	145	77	320	42.3	13,994
North Carolina	11,001	1,469	180	134	252	1,214	45.2	55,219
South Carolina	3,798	510	179	134	112	396	48.2	20,405
Georgia	7,934	1,213	192	153	155	1,053	46.6	46,910
Florida	3,205	505	204	158	42	462	48.5	20,371
South Atlantic	38,169	5,470	184	143	846	4,611	45.8	208,063
Kentucky	8,192	1,029	164	126	250	776	34.3	29,327
Tennessee	7,764	955	160	123	241	709	38.0	30,084
Alabama	5,899	781	173	132	171	607	42.9	27,813
Mississippi	5,188	584	156	113	134	446	39.7	19,188
Arkansas	4,279	544	160	127	143	399	38.4	17,344
Louisiana	3,040	362	155	119	98	261	43.3	12,954
Oklahoma	5,552	829	176	149	157	671	32.6	22,494
Texas	15,418	2,249	173	146	318	1,927	38.1	71,278
South Central	55,332	7,333	167	133	1,512	5,796	37.8	230,482
Montana	1,507	228	189	151	52	176	38.1	7,239
Idaho	1,676	281	201	168	42	239	39.3	9,203
Wyoming	495	78	191	158	17	61	40.3	2,620
Colorado	2,129	336	185	158	53	283	38.3	10,724
New Mexico	750	114	185	152	27	87	41.2	3,914
Arizona	605	87	186	144	7	80	51.2	3,712
Utah	2,232	380	202	170	24	356	39.4	12,477
Nevada	138	20	182	145	6	14	41.4	690
Washington	4,794	828	212	173	69	759	45.6	31,464
Oregon	3,507	615	210	175	61	553	47.1	24,099
California	23,425	4,404	211	188	100	4,300	41.7	152,900
Western	41,258	7,371	207	179	458	6,908	42.2	259,042
United States	368,595	59,485	192	161	5,534	53,876	38.9	1,921,737

1/ Preliminary
2/ Number of eggs produced during the year divided by the number of hens and pullets on hand January 1.

Table 18.- Chickens (excluding commercial broilers): Number on farms January 1, number raised, sold, consumed on farms where produced, and slaughtered, 1930 to date

Year	On farms January 1					Raised	Sold	Consumed on farms where produced	Slaughter from farm production 1/
	Hens	Pullets: Of laying age	Pullets: Not yet of laying age	Other	Total				
	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.
1930	167,139	(253,312)		48,040	468,491	776,971	489,001	244,127	733,128
1931	158,214	197,581	45,981	47,967	449,743	709,425	428,537	230,970	659,507
1932	156,178	185,419	44,229	50,989	436,815	735,510	418,280	246,631	664,911
1933	154,037	192,011	44,695	53,780	444,523	750,090	441,127	254,388	695,515
1934	146,997	196,004	42,340	48,596	433,937	644,424	403,311	218,990	622,301
1935	138,609	171,903	39,895	39,551	389,958	658,344	365,485	218,796	584,281
1936	136,187	186,093	40,339	40,827	403,446	715,034	394,989	235,144	630,133
1937	130,445	209,815	39,494	44,167	423,921	601,147	351,810	215,067	566,877
1938	137,958	173,130	41,876	36,660	389,624	650,685	326,430	227,810	554,240
1939	134,331	194,106	47,704	42,450	418,591	696,655	376,583	224,783	601,366
1940	139,079	202,483	51,093	45,633	438,288	633,705	369,846	201,164	571,010
1941	141,430	192,296	47,589	41,526	422,841	744,956	412,322	197,699	610,021
1942	150,170	220,842	56,899	49,024	476,935	844,276	493,043	193,688	686,731
1943	170,337	255,321	63,301	53,088	542,047	1,001,392	682,937	190,620	873,557
1944	174,000	282,183	67,404	58,610	582,197	832,063	611,901	178,670	790,571
1945	172,426	254,498	46,956	42,617	516,497	890,443	609,271	183,101	792,372
1946	150,712	269,303	52,805	50,407	523,227	737,632	529,437	173,063	702,500
1947	150,490	243,931	37,025	35,771	467,217	719,418	491,451	161,851	653,302
1948	139,587	242,785	35,198	32,074	449,644	615,076	401,613	153,262	554,875
1949	141,044	227,145	31,191	31,496	430,876	705,099	440,944	156,216	597,160
1950 2/	137,014	254,557	32,202	32,776	456,549				
1951 2/	141,178	228,748	29,412	31,650	430,988				
1952 2/	135,814	231,414	30,006	29,321	426,555				
1953 2/	135,411	215,004	22,598	25,145	398,158				
1954 2/	115,840	231,304	23,826	25,806	396,776	539,908	331,577	129,339	460,916
1955 2/	111,376	232,681	24,538	22,113	390,708	461,868	264,574	121,366	385,940
1956 3/	121,527	210,873	27,296	22,522	382,218				

1/ Slaughter is the sum of sales and consumption on farms where produced. The difference between raised and slaughtered is accounted for by (a) difference in January 1 inventories and (b) death losses. 2/ Revised. 3/ Preliminary.

Table 19.- Farm chickens: Average live weight, sales, farm consumption, and value, 1930 to date

Year	Average live weight			Total sold, live weight	Total consumed on farms where produced, live weight	Slaughter, live weight, from farm production 1/	Weighted annual average price received per pound	Value of:	
	Young	Mature	All					Sales from farms	Sales plus home consumption
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Ct.	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.
1930	3.0	4.7	3.7	1,815	809	2,624	18.4	333	479
1931	3.1	4.7	3.8	1,634	782	2,416	15.8	258	378
1932	3.2	4.9	3.9	1,616	840	2,456	11.7	190	284
1933	3.2	4.8	3.8	1,696	866	2,562	9.5	160	239
1934	3.1	4.7	3.8	1,545	732	2,277	11.3	171	252
1935	3.2	4.8	3.9	1,414	745	2,159	14.9	211	319
1936	3.3	4.8	3.9	1,536	798	2,334	15.0	230	348
1937	3.3	4.8	4.0	1,417	752	2,169	16.0	227	343
1938	3.3	4.8	3.9	1,282	787	2,069	14.8	189	300
1939	3.3	4.8	3.9	1,481	779	2,260	13.2	195	296
1940	3.3	4.9	4.1	1,508	712	2,220	13.0	196	286
1941	3.4	5.2	4.1	1,673	699	2,372	15.6	261	368
1942	3.5	5.2	4.2	2,046	689	2,735	18.7	384	510
1943	3.5	5.3	4.2	2,836	678	3,514	24.3	688	852
1944	3.6	5.2	4.3	2,645	644	3,289	23.7	627	779
1945	3.7	5.2	4.3	2,616	669	3,285	25.9	677	852
1946	3.7	5.2	4.4	2,318	638	2,956	27.6	639	814
1947	3.7	5.2	4.4	2,144	598	2,742	26.5	568	727
1948	3.7	5.3	4.5	1,804	568	2,372	30.1	543	711
1949	3.8	5.3	4.4	1,954	575	2,529	25.4	497	643
1950									
1951									
1952									
1953									
1954 2/	3.8	5.2	4.5	1,508	467	1,975	16.8	253	333
1955 3/	3.8	5.2	4.6	1,230	442	1,672	18.6	229	310

1/ Slaughter is the sum of sales and consumption on farms where produced.
2/ Revised.
3/ Preliminary.

Table .- Farms chickens: Number raised, sold, and value, by States and regions, 1955 1/

State and region	Chickens raised	Chickens sold		Chickens consumed on farms where produced		Average price, per pound	Value of sales plus home consumption
		Number	Weight, (live)	Number	Weight, (live)		
	Thousands	Thousands	1,000 pounds	Thousands	1,000 pounds	Cents	1,000 dollars
Maine	7,220	6,168	32,074	204	1,142	21.7	7,208
New Hampshire	5,406	4,624	22,658	136	680	21.7	5,065
Vermont	2,245	1,859	8,923	183	952	21.6	2,133
Massachusetts	6,689	5,400	25,380	247	1,334	21.6	5,770
Rhode Island	804	656	3,083	49	255	22.0	734
Connecticut	6,636	5,621	25,857	254	1,295	22.1	6,000
New York	13,209	9,442	46,266	1,559	7,639	22.3	12,020
New Jersey	12,404	8,364	41,820	658	3,027	23.0	10,315
Pennsylvania	23,199	15,032	78,166	2,677	13,385	22.4	20,507
North Atlantic	77,812	57,166	284,227	5,967	29,709	22.2	69,752
Ohio	15,929	10,107	51,546	3,611	16,972	18.9	12,950
Indiana	19,250	13,275	63,720	3,647	14,588	18.6	14,565
Illinois	22,274	13,743	64,592	5,186	21,263	17.9	15,368
Michigan	13,207	8,917	44,585	2,114	10,570	20.7	11,417
Wisconsin	17,658	11,973	53,878	3,352	15,419	17.8	12,335
East North Central	88,318	58,015	278,321	17,910	78,812	18.7	66,635
Minnesota	24,500	17,280	79,488	4,017	17,273	15.4	14,901
Iowa	34,601	24,700	118,560	6,356	26,695	15.5	22,515
Missouri	20,087	11,649	53,585	6,025	20,485	16.2	12,000
North Dakota	5,903	3,580	15,752	1,564	6,256	14.2	3,125
South Dakota	10,389	6,375	29,325	2,363	9,216	15.7	6,051
Nebraska	15,500	8,889	39,112	4,348	16,088	14.8	8,170
Kansas	14,602	7,925	33,285	4,660	16,310	13.6	6,745
West North Central	125,582	80,398	369,107	29,333	112,323	15.3	73,507
Delaware	1,163	822	3,863	178	748	23.7	1,093
Maryland	3,651	2,153	10,119	924	3,696	23.7	3,274
Virginia	6,618	1,575	8,190	4,204	14,714	20.3	4,650
West Virginia	2,834	1,050	5,145	1,283	5,004	20.0	2,030
North Carolina	14,967	4,288	21,440	7,324	24,169	20.6	9,396
South Carolina	5,268	1,033	4,958	3,490	11,168	22.3	3,596
Georgia	11,167	4,514	19,862	4,821	13,981	21.0	7,107
Florida	4,938	3,218	11,585	898	3,053	22.2	3,250
South Atlantic	50,606	18,653	85,162	23,122	76,533	21.5	34,396
Kentucky	10,518	3,209	15,724	5,914	19,516	17.7	6,237
Tennessee	10,413	4,082	17,144	4,864	15,078	17.2	5,542
Alabama	7,216	1,041	4,893	4,932	14,303	20.0	3,840
Mississippi	6,186	883	4,150	4,078	12,234	21.0	3,441
Arkansas	5,396	1,728	8,122	2,951	8,853	17.7	3,005
Louisiana	4,717	726	2,977	3,177	10,166	24.5	3,220
Oklahoma	7,065	2,267	9,068	3,529	10,940	14.2	2,841
Texas	15,709	4,555	17,764	7,872	22,829	17.8	7,226
South Central	67,220	18,491	79,842	37,317	113,919	17.8	35,352
Montana	3,108	1,919	8,252	822	3,452	23.9	2,797
Idaho	2,484	1,327	5,706	839	3,188	18.1	1,610
Wyoming	680	321	1,316	282	1,015	21.3	496
Colorado	2,998	1,581	6,482	1,083	4,007	15.5	1,626
New Mexico	772	204	816	405	1,256	17.1	355
Arizona	766	470	1,786	181	579	19.1	452
Utah	2,011	1,330	5,453	315	1,102	14.7	964
Nevada	164	46	202	88	308	16.1	83
Washington	5,768	3,564	17,464	1,193	5,249	18.7	4,248
Oregon	4,691	2,935	13,501	819	3,522	18.7	3,184
California	28,888	18,154	72,616	1,690	6,591	18.1	14,336
Western	52,330	31,851	133,594	7,717	30,269	18.4	30,151
United States	461,868	264,574	1,230,253	121,366	441,565	18.6	309,793

1/ Preliminary.

Table 21.- Commercial broilers: Production, average live weight, price per pound, and value of production, 1934 to date 1/

Year	Production		Average live weight, per bird	Average price received by producers, per pound, live weight	Value of production
	Number	Pounds (live)			
	Millions	Millions	Pounds	Cents	Million dollars
1934	34	97	2.8	19.3	19
1935	43	123	2.9	20.0	25
1936	53	152	2.9	20.6	31
1937	68	196	2.9	21.4	42
1938	82	239	2.9	19.0	46
1939	106	306	2.9	17.0	52
1940	143	413	2.9	17.3	72
1941	192	559	2.9	18.4	103
1942	228	674	3.0	22.9	155
1943	285	833	2.9	28.6	238
1944	274	818	2.9	28.8	235
1945	366	1,107	3.0	29.5	327
1946	293	884	3.0	32.7	289
1947	310	936	3.0	32.3	302
1948	371	1,127	3.0	36.0	405
1949	513	1,570	3.1	28.2	443
1950	631	1,938	3.1	27.4	530
1951	806	2,463	3.1	28.6	703
1952	887	2,699	3.0	28.8	778
1953	957	2,933	3.1	27.1	794
1954 2/	1,048	3,236	3.1	23.1	747
1955 3/	1,078	3,309	3.1	25.2	834

1/ Data for 1950-53 subject to revision.

2/ Revised.

3/ Preliminary.

Table 22.- Commercial broilers: Production, average live weight, price per pound, and value of production, by States and regions, 1955 1/

State and region	Production		Average live weight, per bird	Average price received by producers, per pound, live weight	Value of production
	Number	Weight, (live)			
	Thousands	1,000 pounds	Pounds	Cents	1,000 dollars
Maine	33,438	120,377	3.6	24.4	29,372
New Hampshire	7,627	27,457	3.6	24.9	6,837
Vermont	966	3,284	3.4	25.0	821
Massachusetts	17,071	58,041	3.4	25.5	14,800
Rhode Island	1,375	4,812	3.5	25.8	1,241
Connecticut	25,852	90,482	3.5	26.5	23,978
New York	13,052	50,903	3.9	28.0	14,253
New Jersey	9,384	35,659	3.8	29.5	10,519
Pennsylvania	30,318	100,049	3.3	26.1	26,113
North Atlantic	139,083	491,064	3.5	26.1	127,934
Ohio	17,181	56,697	3.3	25.2	14,288
Indiana	32,368	103,578	3.2	25.4	26,309
Illinois	8,691	26,073	3.0	25.2	6,570
Michigan	4,252	14,032	3.3	26.3	3,690
Wisconsin	13,805	44,176	3.2	25.1	11,088
East North Central	76,297	244,556	3.2	25.3	61,945
Minnesota	2,463	7,389	3.0	25.3	1,869
Iowa	4,740	15,642	3.3	24.5	3,832
Missouri	25,767	77,301	3.0	24.3	18,784
North Dakota	---	---	---	---	---
South Dakota	---	---	---	---	---
Nebraska	3,577	10,731	3.0	25.0	2,683
Kansas	1,734	5,029	2.9	26.5	1,333
West North Central	38,281	116,092	3.0	24.6	28,501
Delaware	69,820	216,442	3.1	25.7	55,626
Maryland	58,367	180,938	3.1	25.7	46,501
Virginia	55,179	171,055	3.1	24.6	42,080
West Virginia	21,873	69,994	3.2	24.8	17,359
North Carolina	59,516	178,548	3.0	24.2	43,209
South Carolina	10,053	29,154	2.9	24.5	7,143
Georgia	177,642	515,162	2.9	24.4	125,700
Florida	9,389	27,228	2.9	26.2	7,134
South Atlantic	461,839	1,388,521	3.0	24.8	344,752
Kentucky	9,540	29,574	3.1	24.5	7,246
Tennessee	13,225	38,352	2.9	24.3	9,320
Alabama	57,764	179,068	3.1	24.5	43,872
Mississippi	37,486	104,961	2.8	24.5	25,715
Arkansas	76,954	215,471	2.8	24.4	52,575
Louisiana	11,666	34,998	3.0	25.3	8,854
Oklahoma	6,436	18,664	2.9	25.4	4,741
Texas	79,687	231,092	2.9	25.5	58,928
South Central	292,758	852,180	2.9	24.8	211,251
Montana	---	---	---	---	---
Idaho	1,292	3,747	2.9	28.4	1,064
Wyoming	---	---	---	---	---
Colorado	1,945	6,030	3.1	29.0	1,749
New Mexico	---	---	---	---	---
Arizona	562	1,686	3.0	29.6	499
Utah	1,776	5,683	3.2	26.7	1,517
Nevada	---	---	---	---	---
Washington	9,782	30,324	3.1	26.5	8,036
Oregon	6,133	19,012	3.1	26.3	5,000
California	48,516	150,400	3.1	27.9	41,962
Western	70,006	216,882	3.1	27.6	59,827
United States	1,078,264	3,309,295	3.1	25.2	834,210

1/ Preliminary

Table 23.- Turkeys: Average live weight, sales, farm consumption, and value, available data, 1930 to date 1/

Year	Average live weight per turkey sold				Total sold, live weight	Total consumed on farms where produced, live weight	Total slaughter, live weight	Weighted annual average price received per pound	Value of:	
	Hens	Toms	Fryers	All					Sales	Sales plus home consumption
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Ct.	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.
1930				13.4	214	23	237	20.2	43	48
1931				13.6	214	21	235	19.3	41	45
1932				13.8	268	23	290	12.8	34	37
1933				14.0	304	23	327	11.6	35	38
1934				14.1	290	21	311	15.1	44	47
1935				14.5	274	20	294	20.1	55	59
1936				14.7	374	21	396	15.6	59	62
1937	11.9	17.7		14.8	359	21	380	18.1	65	69
1938	11.9	17.9		14.9	370	19	389	17.5	65	68
1939	11.9	17.9		14.9	444	19	463	15.7	70	72
1940	12.0	18.1		15.1	506	17	524	15.2	77	80
1941	12.6	19.2		15.9	491	15	506	19.9	98	101
1942	12.9	19.7		16.3	523	13	536	27.5	144	147
1943	12.8	19.6		16.2	485	12	496	32.7	158	162
1944	13.0	20.7		16.8	577	10	587	33.9	196	199
1945	13.5	21.4		17.4	715	12	727	33.7	241	245
1946	13.9	22.2		18.0	740	12	752	36.3	269	273
1947	13.8	22.5		18.1	634	12	646	36.5	232	236
1948	14.0	22.6		18.3	549	11	561	46.8	257	263
1949	14.2	23.3		18.8	748	12	760	35.2	263	267
1950	14.1	23.0		18.6	797	11	808	32.8	262	266
1951	13.6	22.2		17.9	911	11	922	37.4	341	345
1952	14.3	23.7	7.6	16.9	1,019	12	1,030	33.6	342	346
1953	14.5	24.3	8.0	17.0	955	12	967	33.6	321	325
1954 2/	14.4	24.1	8.2	17.2	1,149	12	1,161	28.8	331	334
1955 3/	14.4	24.5	8.3	16.7	1,080	11	1,091	30.2	326	329

1/ Data for 1950-53 subject to revision.
2/ Revised.
3/ Preliminary.

Table 24.- Turkeys: Numbers on farms January 1, numbers raised, sold, consumed on farms where produced, and total slaughter, available data 1930 to date 1/

Year	Numbers on farms January 1: Breeders	Numbers on farms January 1: Others	Raised	Sold	Consumed on farms where produced	Total slaughter 2/
	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.
			(a) All turkeys			
1930			17,419	15,999	1,704	17,703
1931			18,249	15,746	1,549	17,295
1932			22,333	19,393	1,665	21,058
1933			23,241	21,733	1,623	23,356
1934			21,702	20,615	1,505	22,120
1935			20,821	18,827	1,428	20,255
1936			27,981	25,530	1,485	27,015
1937	3,481	2,877	25,755	24,228	1,425	25,653
1938	3,222	2,874	26,887	24,863	1,291	26,154
1939	3,914	2,575	33,587	29,824	1,297	31,121
1940	4,607	3,962	33,791	33,565	1,170	34,735
1941	3,848	3,302	32,607	30,911	996	31,907
1942	3,962	3,485	32,504	32,103	824	32,927
1943	3,897	2,687	31,803	29,903	747	30,650
1944	4,198	3,096	35,132	34,265	647	34,912
1945	4,505	2,577	42,900	40,999	691	41,690
1946	4,841	3,021	40,142	41,030	699	41,729
1947	3,779	2,100	33,975	34,938	675	35,613
1948	2,537	1,428	31,541	30,017	666	30,683
1949	3,148	1,474	41,266	39,841	676	40,517
1950	3,270	1,854	43,792	42,918	648	43,566
1951	3,301	1,790	52,476	50,853	644	51,497
1952	3,828	1,994	60,868	60,452	715	61,167
1953	3,364	1,941	57,141	56,210	716	56,926
1954 3/	3,421	1,894	67,693	66,867	679	67,546
1955 4/	3,012	1,905	65,570	64,754	653	65,407
1956 4/	3,212	1,680				
			(b) Beltsville Small Whites and other light breeds			
1950			5,124			
1951			11,020			
1952			17,753			
1953	486	202	15,623			
1954 3/	698	214	19,154			
1955 4/	533	292	16,784			
1956 4/	493	279				
			(c) Large-breed turkeys			
1950			38,668			
1951			41,456			
1952			43,115			
1953	2,878	1,739	40,898			
1954 3/	2,723	1,680	48,539			
1955 4/	2,479	1,613	48,786			
1956 4/	2,719	1,401				

1/ Data for 1950-53 subject to revision. 2/ Slaughter is the sum of sales and consumption on farms where produced. The difference between raised and slaughtered is accounted for by (a) difference in January 1 inventories, and (b) death losses. 3/ Revised. 4/ Preliminary.

Table 25.- Turkeys: Number raised, by breed-types, by States and regions, 1954, 1955, and intentions 1956

State and region	1954			1955 1/			1956 intentions as a percentage of 1955		
	Beltsvilles and other light types	Bronze and other heavy types	Total	Beltsvilles and other light types	Bronze and other heavy types	Total	Beltsvilles and other light types	Bronze and other heavy types	Total
	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Percent	Percent	Percent
Maine	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.3	55	125	92
New Hampshire	2/	.2	.2	2/	.1	.1	83	90	90
Vermont	2/	.1	.1	2/	.1	.1	100	92	92
Massachusetts	.1	.6	.7	2/	.6	.6	100	112	111
Rhode Island	2/	.1	.1	2/	2/	.1	100	107	107
Connecticut	2/	.3	.3	2/	.3	.3	96	108	107
New York	.1	1.0	1.1	.1	.9	1.0	104	104	104
New Jersey	.1	.3	.4	.1	.2	.3	90	108	101
Pennsylvania	.7	1.7	2.5	.7	1.6	2.3	90	106	102
North Atlantic	1.2	4.4	5.6	1.0	4.1	5.1	86	107	103
Ohio	.9	2.0	3.0	.9	2.1	3.0	98	101	100
Indiana	.6	1.5	2.1	.6	1.3	2.0	40	146	112
Illinois	.1	.9	1.0	.1	.8	.9	105	100	100
Michigan	.2	1.0	1.2	.2	.8	1.0	75	108	103
Wisconsin	.6	1.2	1.8	.6	1.7	2.2	75	120	108
East North Central	2.4	6.7	9.0	2.3	6.7	9.0	75	115	105
Minnesota	3.5	4.2	7.7	2.6	5.4	8.0	90	118	109
Iowa	.6	4.0	4.6	.3	4.2	4.5	100	105	105
Missouri	.6	1.9	2.5	.6	1.9	2.4	87	104	100
North Dakota	.1	.4	.6	.1	.4	.5	50	108	95
South Dakota	.1	.3	.4	2/	.3	.3	100	111	110
Nebraska	.1	.8	.9	.1	.7	.8	70	103	100
Kansas	.1	.7	.8	.1	.6	.7	90	101	100
West North Central	5.1	12.3	17.4	3.8	13.5	17.3	89	110	105
Delaware	1.1	.2	1.3	.8	.1	.9	115	96	113
Maryland	.4	.3	.7	.3	.2	.5	125	98	114
Virginia	3.4	2.0	5.4	3.6	1.9	5.5	77	165	108
West Virginia	1.2	.6	1.8	1.1	.5	1.6	75	135	94
North Carolina	.1	1.1	1.2	.1	.9	1.1	40	115	104
South Carolina	.5	1.0	1.4	.2	.9	1.1	8	137	108
Georgia	2/	.4	.4	2/	.3	.3	67	111	110
Florida	2/	.2	.2	2/	.1	.2	100	110	108
South Atlantic	6.8	5.7	12.5	6.3	5.0	11.3	81	138	107
Kentucky	.1	.3	.5	.1	.3	.4	93	109	106
Tennessee	2/	.2	.2	2/	.2	.2	67	120	114
Alabama	.1	.2	.3	.1	.2	.3	101	103	102
Mississippi	2/	.1	.2	2/	.1	.1	100	115	113
Arkansas	.6	.9	1.5	.4	1.1	1.6	125	100	108
Louisiana	2/	.1	.1	2/	.1	.1	143	117	120
Oklahoma	.2	.6	.8	.2	.5	.7	94	103	101
Texas	.4	2.6	3.0	.4	2.6	3.0	88	113	110
South Central	1.5	5.1	6.5	1.3	5.1	6.4	102	109	108
Montana	2/	.1	.1	2/	2/	.1	75	96	92
Idaho	2/	.1	.1	2/	.1	.1	86	102	100
Wyoming	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	100	178	147
Colorado	.1	.8	.1	.1	.8	.9	57	123	118
New Mexico	2/	.1	.1	2/	2/	.1	100	116	112
Arizona	2/	.1	.1	2/	.1	1.0	133	119	120
Utah	.5	1.9	2.4	.7	2.0	2.8	70	117	105
Nevada	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	67	114	100
Washington	.2	.8	.1	.1	.7	.8	85	105	103
Oregon	.3	1.3	1.6	.2	1.3	1.5	105	120	118
California	1.1	9.1	10.2	.8	9.4	10.2	85	109	107
Western	2.2	14.3	16.5	2.0	14.5	16.5	81	112	108
United States	19.2	48.5	67.7	16.8	48.8	65.6	84	114	106

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Less than 0.05.

Table 26.- Turkeys: Production, disposition, and related data, by States and regions, 1955 1/

State and region	Number on farms January 1, 1955			Sales				Consumed on farms where produced		Average price, per pound	Value of:		Number on farms, December 31, 1955		
				Average live weight per bird											
	Heavy breeds	Light breeds	Total	Immature and light-weight turkeys 2/	All turkeys	Number	Weight, (live)	Number	Weight, (live)		Sales	Sales plus home consumption	Heavy breeds	Light breeds	Total
	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Lb.	Lb.	Thou.	Thou. lb.	Thou.	Thou. lb.	Ct.	Thou. dol.	Thou. dol.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.
Maine	9	12	21	9.0	13.7	260	3,562	2	27	32.8	1,168	1,177	11	6	17
New Hampshire	20	2	22	8.5	18.2	139	2,530	1	18	32.3	817	823	22	1	23
Vermont	11	1	12	8.5	18.8	115	2,162	3	56	33.3	720	739	9	---	9
Massachusetts	55	2	57	8.5	17.4	639	11,119	6	104	35.3	3,925	3,962	51	2	53
Rhode Island	5	---	5	8.5	17.7	52	920	1	18	36.3	334	341	4	---	4
Connecticut	30	3	33	9.0	17.6	272	4,787	4	70	36.3	1,738	1,763	22	5	27
New York	105	3	108	8.0	17.9	986	17,649	17	304	37.1	6,548	6,661	74	2	76
New Jersey	24	5	29	8.0	14.4	336	4,838	5	72	38.3	1,853	1,881	18	3	21
Pennsylvania	145	39	184	8.3	15.7	2,270	35,639	30	471	37.1	13,222	13,397	146	29	175
North Atlantic	404	67	471	8.4	16.4	5,069	83,206	69	1,140	36.4	30,325	30,744	357	48	405
Ohio	132	60	192	7.9	15.9	2,912	46,301	16	254	30.5	14,122	14,199	150	61	211
Indiana	38	19	57	8.0	15.6	1,958	30,545	11	172	30.0	9,164	9,216	34	8	42
Illinois	53	7	60	8.0	19.5	886	17,277	8	156	30.6	5,287	5,335	54	6	60
Michigan	100	14	114	7.8	17.3	967	16,729	7	121	32.3	5,403	5,442	92	8	100
Wisconsin	72	18	90	7.8	16.5	2,210	36,465	7	116	31.6	11,523	11,560	67	14	81
East North Central	395	118	513	7.9	16.5	8,933	147,317	49	819	30.9	45,499	45,752	397	97	494
Minnesota	241	58	299	8.6	16.0	7,948	127,168	11	176	29.2	37,133	37,184	281	75	356
Iowa	135	6	141	8.3	19.4	4,426	85,864	9	175	30.6	26,274	26,328	145	9	154
Missouri	202	58	260	8.2	18.0	2,431	43,758	14	252	29.5	12,909	12,983	191	56	247
North Dakota	29	3	32	8.2	17.1	489	8,362	15	256	29.9	2,500	2,577	31	3	34
South Dakota	37	4	41	9.0	18.5	323	5,976	8	148	30.0	1,793	1,837	35	3	38
Nebraska	29	2	31	7.7	18.8	803	15,096	7	132	29.3	4,423	4,462	34	2	36
Kansas	56	6	62	8.2	17.9	722	12,924	8	143	28.1	3,632	3,672	53	6	59
West North Central	729	137	866	8.5	17.5	17,142	299,148	72	1,282	29.6	88,664	89,043	770	154	924
Delaware	7	2	9	8.5	9.7	916	8,885	3	29	34.4	3,056	3,066	7	2	9
Maryland	30	3	33	8.7	12.9	524	6,760	11	142	33.5	2,265	2,313	23	8	31
Virginia	80	168	248	8.5	12.0	5,520	66,240	18	216	29.7	19,673	19,737	76	152	228
West Virginia	36	32	68	8.7	11.6	1,624	18,838	7	81	30.4	5,727	5,752	31	40	71
North Carolina	57	7	64	8.5	17.8	1,031	18,352	19	338	30.9	5,671	5,775	55	10	65
South Carolina	74	16	90	8.7	16.9	1,108	18,725	14	237	32.5	6,086	6,163	74	6	80
Georgia	61	---	61	8.3	18.8	289	5,433	23	432	35.2	1,912	2,064	63	---	63
Florida	21	5	26	8.2	16.3	151	2,461	12	196	37.1	913	986	21	6	27
South Atlantic	366	233	599	8.6	13.1	11,163	145,694	107	1,671	31.1	45,303	45,856	350	224	574
Kentucky	61	3	64	8.0	16.6	346	5,744	13	216	29.1	1,672	1,735	63	1	64
Tennessee	33	4	37	8.0	17.4	154	2,680	22	383	29.5	791	904	32	3	35
Alabama	28	12	40	8.0	13.7	242	3,315	31	425	32.8	1,087	1,226	28	12	40
Mississippi	47	5	52	7.5	16.6	110	1,826	29	481	33.4	610	771	52	5	57
Arkansas	45	49	94	8.2	15.3	1,510	23,103	20	306	28.0	6,469	6,555	59	59	118
Louisiana	34	3	37	8.5	16.9	39	659	35	592	37.1	244	464	35	4	39
Oklahoma	62	8	70	8.0	16.7	722	12,057	14	234	27.7	3,340	3,405	65	9	74
Texas	311	64	375	7.1	17.7	2,939	52,020	79	1,398	28.0	14,566	14,957	321	54	375
South Central	621	148	769	7.8	16.7	6,062	101,404	243	4,035	28.4	28,779	30,017	655	147	802
Montana	8	1	9	7.5	14.8	57	844	12	178	30.0	253	306	6	1	7
Idaho	9	2	11	7.5	17.1	117	2,001	5	86	30.3	606	632	9	2	11
Wyoming	6	---	6	8.0	15.7	19	298	5	78	30.8	92	116	6	1	7
Colorado	37	3	40	7.3	19.2	868	16,666	11	211	28.7	4,783	4,844	19	1	20
New Mexico	7	---	7	7.5	17.1	48	821	8	137	31.4	258	301	7	---	7
Arizona	10	---	10	7.5	18.6	83	1,544	8	149	30.0	463	508	14	1	15
Utah	39	16	55	8.8	17.1	2,771	47,384	6	103	29.0	13,741	13,771	41	7	48
Nevada	---	---	---	8.0	17.4	8	139	2	35	29.2	41	51	---	---	---
Washington	111	13	124	7.1	19.7	798	15,721	11	217	28.4	4,465	4,527	107	11	118
Oregon	247	31	278	7.9	18.3	1,496	27,377	13	238	27.9	7,638	7,704	258	31	289
California	1,103	56	1,159	7.6	18.8	10,120	190,256	32	602	28.8	54,794	54,967	1,124	47	1,171
Western	1,577	122	1,699	8.1	18.5	16,385	303,051	113	2,034	28.8	87,134	87,727	1,591	102	1,693
United States	4,092	825	4,917	8.3	16.7	64,754	1,079,820	653	10,981	30.2	325,704	329,139	4,120	772	4,892

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Including Beltsville Small Whites and other breeds.

Seasonal Changes in Broiler Chick Placements and Marketings 1/

Producers of commercial broilers generally place the most chicks in the spring and the fewest in the fall. Two factors, one basically biologic, the other economic, contribute to the seasonal nature of broiler chick placements.

In the spring, the supply of hatching eggs is plentiful, but it diminishes from July through October as total output of large eggs declines. Further, the percentage of fertile eggs declines at that season as hens approach the end of a laying period. Consequently, the potential supply of chicks in the fall is reduced unless specific practices are undertaken to assure a steady supply of chicks. However, these practices increase costs and occur at a time when broilers from resulting placements would often bring prices below the annual average, thereby largely eliminating the incentive to overcome the biologic limitation on hatching egg production. Also, hot weather in the summer is a disadvantage for growing broilers, and farmers may reduce or delay their mid-year chick orders for that reason.

From the economic aspect, the supply of competing products, principally beef, pork, farm chicken, and turkey, typically increases in the last few months of the year, tending to depress the demand for broilers. Producers may anticipate these developments and, therefore, reduce placements to be marketed towards the end of the year. In addition, seasonal labor requirements of competing farm enterprises and seasonally larger income from crops may reduce broiler operations at that time.

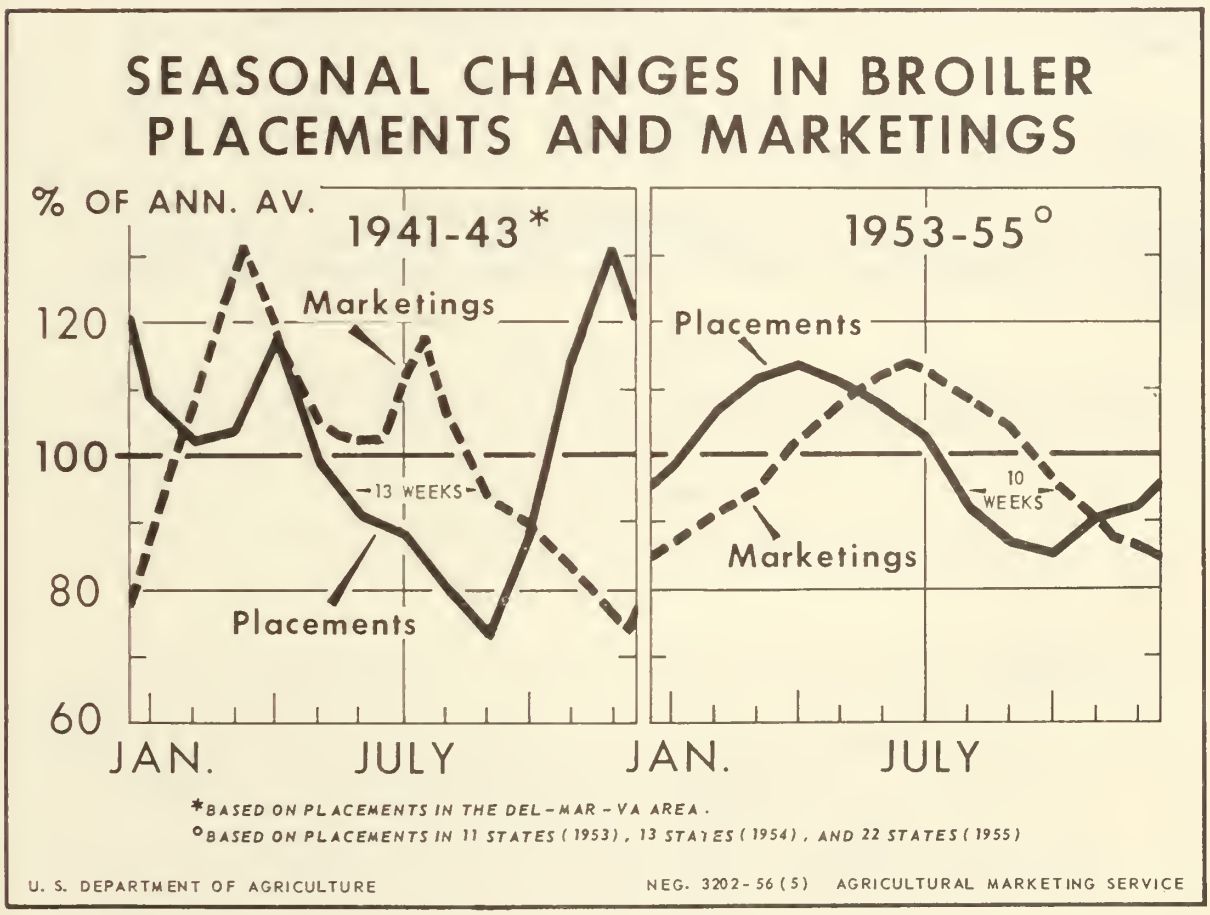
The figure with this article illustrates seasonal changes in broiler chick placements and marketings for 2 periods, 1941-43 and 1953-55. In the earlier period there appeared to be 2 peaks in chick placements, April and December. With about a 12-14 week production period needed to bring a chick to marketable weight at that time, marketings were largest in March and almost as large in July, with extreme seasonal changes occurring within the year. The earlier of those 2 peak marketings may have been timed for Easter.

Currently, placements have become more evenly timed throughout the year, although a pronounced seasonal change from April to October is still present. The declining placements from December to March, which characterized the early 1940's, no longer appear to be the pattern. Rather, average 1953-55 placements had only a single peak, increasing steadily from the low of September to a high in April, then declining to the September low.

1/ A full report detailing the construction of the seasonal index for broiler chick placement data has been prepared by Martin J. Gerra, based on research under authority of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (RMA, Title II). It can be obtained upon request from the Agricultural Marketing Service.

With increased feeding efficiency and improved flock management shortening the production span from the former 12-14 weeks to a 9-11 week span today, peak marketing of broilers now occurs in mid-summer. Despite typical large marketings at that time, prices then are generally above the average for the year. Many economists attribute this phenomenon to a strong seasonal demand for broilers, stemming from outdoor cooking and the desire for easily prepared, less fatty foods in the heat of summer. Marketings of meat animals also are seasonally low at this time and prices are seasonally high.

Table 27 shows the average weekly rates of broiler chick placements during each month for selected areas. Placements were put in the month in which the first day of each week fell. While weekly and monthly placement data were available for only part of the United States, the areas included in table 27 represented the most important commercial broiler production



areas in the United States during the respective years. For example, placements in the Del-Mar-Va area, after a 10 percent allowance for mortality, were more than a quarter of the reported U. S. commercial broiler production in 1942. In 1955, mortality-adjusted broiler chick placements in the 22 reporting States were about 88 percent of the national figure. 1/

Table 28 lists the chain index computed for the broiler chick placement data, the seasonal adjustment factors, and the chain index data after adjustment for seasonality.

To obtain the seasonal adjustment factors for marketings, it is only necessary to lead the factors for adjusting broiler chick placements by the appropriate time span between placement and marketing. For example, in 1941-43, the average time required to bring a chick to marketable weight probably ranged between 12-14 weeks. Therefore, as shown in the figure, the curve representing the average 1941-43 seasonal adjustment factors was moved forward 13 weeks to indicate the index of seasonal variation for marketings of broilers. For the 1953-55 data, the curve was advanced only 10 weeks.

1/ For both 1942 and 1955, these placements include the chicks placed in the last 10 or 13 weeks of the preceding calendar year, and omit chicks placed in a corresponding number of weeks at the end of the given calendar year.

Table 27.- Monthly broiler chick placements, average weekly rates, selected areas, 1941 to date 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.
						(a) Del-Mar-Va						
1941	1,104	1,141	1,157	1,144	1,128	1,095	1,139	1,070	927	1,109	1,452	2,012
1942	1,478	1,409	1,419	1,117	1,110	1,382	1,404	1,237	1,122	1,215	1,580	1,982
1943	1,698	1,444	1,358	1,469	1,349	1,384	1,285	1,162	1,137	1,586	2,024	1,767
1944	1,723	1,906	2,427	2,287	1,821	1,480	1,144	996	886	1,355	1,973	2,792
1945	2,496	2,301	2,612	2,863	2,618	2,502	2,053	1,776	1,800	2,187	2,522	2,369
1946	986											
						(b) Four commercial areas 2/						
1946	1,578	2,464	2,632	3,837	2,702	1,618	1,806	1,766	1,895	2,666	3,804	2,119
1947	3,118	3,128	3,766	3,207	3,115	3,551	3,247	2,948	2,483	2,525	2,634	2,449
1948	3,048											
						(c) Seven commercial areas 3/						
1948	4,244	4,353	4,572	5,354	5,094	4,856	4,517	3,936	3,758	4,319	5,652	6,132
1949	6,566	6,584	6,928	7,029	6,877	6,416	4,974	4,617	5,148	6,533	6,210	5,907
1950	6,162	6,621	8,111	7,488	7,031	7,240	7,232	7,178	7,218	6,766	6,623	7,300
1951	7,753											
						(d) Eleven commercial areas 4/						
1951	9,125	10,856	11,467	12,215	12,138	11,607	10,964	9,836	9,060	8,832	9,896	10,721
1952	11,547											
						(e) Eleven States 5/						
1952	11,793	13,899	13,594	12,321	11,375	11,251	10,130	9,012	9,170	9,969	10,990	11,478
1953	12,077	12,263	13,316	13,538	13,306	12,871	11,514	10,458	10,153	11,002	12,770	12,931
1954	13,384											
						(f) Thirteen States 6/						
1954	14,484	14,876	15,655	16,131	15,392	14,968	14,882	13,882	13,187	11,775	12,052	11,204
						(g) Twenty two States 7/						
1954											15,282	14,128
1955	15,578	19,972	20,218	22,067	22,616	22,845	22,181	19,684	17,656	18,368	19,284	20,510
1956	21,266	23,374	24,861	26,534								

1/ Placements are classified into the month on which the first day of each week falls.

2/ Del-Mar-Va, North Georgia, West Virginia and parts of Virginia.

3/ Eastern Connecticut, Del-Mar-Va, Shenandoah Valley (Virginia and West Virginia), North Carolina (Chatham and Wilkes), North Georgia, Northwest Arkansas, and Texas.

4/ Seven commercial areas listed above plus Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, and Indiana.

5/ Alabama, Northwest Arkansas, Del-Mar-Va, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oregon, Shenandoah Valley (Virginia and West Virginia), and Texas.

6/ States listed above plus California, Connecticut and Maine.

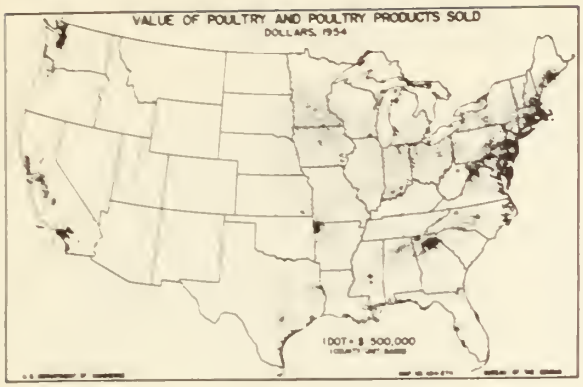
7/ Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia.

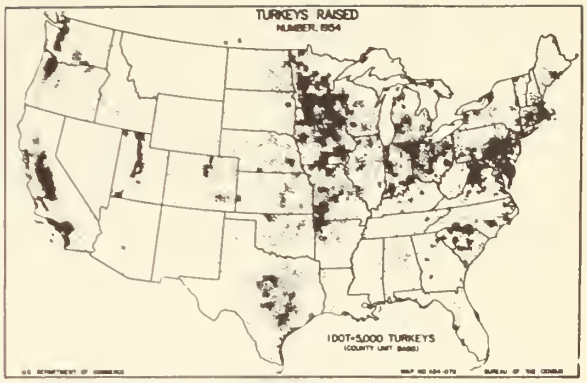
Data for Del-Mar-Va (1941-46) from: Gwin, James M. The Delmarva Broiler Industry, Md. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. A-57, 1950; data for four commercial areas (1946-47) are from unpublished records of the USDA; data for 1948 to date published weekly by USDA.

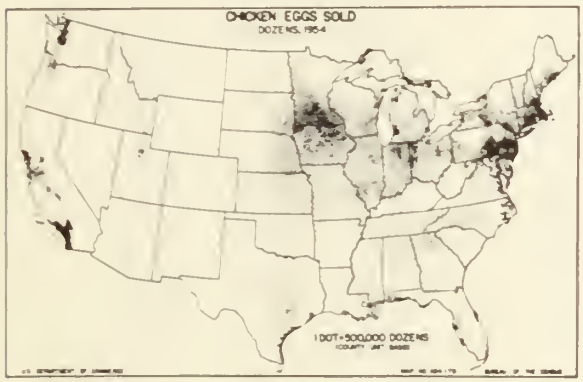
Table 28.- Monthly index of average weekly rate of broiler chick placements, seasonal variation, and seasonally adjusted index, 1941 to date

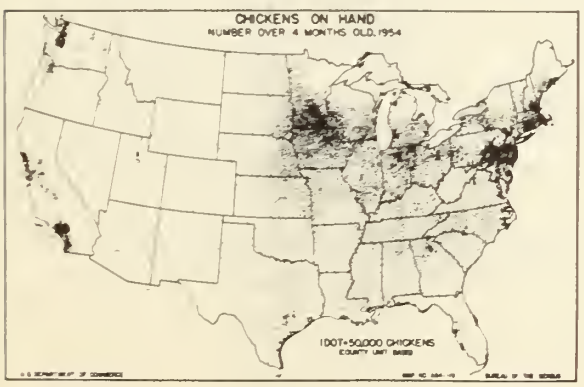
Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	(a) Monthly index of average weekly rate (November 1954=100)											
1941	27.0	27.9	28.3	28.0	27.6	26.8	27.9	26.2	22.7	27.2	35.6	49.3
1942	36.2	34.5	34.7	27.3	27.1	33.7	34.2	30.1	27.3	29.6	38.5	48.3
1943	41.4	35.2	33.1	35.8	32.9	33.7	31.3	28.3	27.7	38.6	49.2	43.0
1944	41.9	46.3	59.0	55.6	44.3	36.0	27.8	24.2	21.5	32.9	47.9	67.7
1945	60.5	55.8	63.3	69.4	63.4	60.6	49.7	43.0	43.6	53.0	61.1	57.4
1946	23.9	37.3	39.9	58.1	40.9	24.5	27.3	26.7	28.6	40.2	57.4	32.0
1947	47.0	47.1	56.7	48.3	46.9	53.5	48.9	44.4	37.4	38.0	39.6	36.8
1948	45.8	47.0	49.4	57.8	55.0	52.4	48.7	42.4	40.5	46.5	60.9	66.0
1949	70.7	70.9	74.6	75.7	74.1	69.1	53.6	49.8	55.5	70.4	66.9	63.7
1950	66.4	71.3	87.4	80.7	75.8	78.1	78.0	77.4	77.9	73.0	71.4	78.7
1951	83.5	99.3	104.9	111.7	111.0	106.1	100.2	89.9	82.8	80.7	90.5	98.1
1952	105.7	124.7	122.0	110.6	102.1	101.0	90.9	80.9	82.3	89.5	98.7	103.1
1953	108.5	110.2	119.6	121.5	119.5	115.6	103.4	93.9	91.2	98.8	114.6	116.0
1954	120.1	123.3	129.8	133.8	127.7	124.2	123.5	115.2	109.4	97.7	100.0	92.4
1955	101.9	130.6	132.2	144.2	147.8	149.3	145.0	128.6	115.4	120.0	126.0	134.1
1956	139.1	152.9										
	(b) Index of seasonal variation 1/											
1941	109	102	104	117	99	91	89	81	73	88	112	134
1942	109	103	104	118	100	91	89	81	73	89	113	132
1943	109	103	104	118	100	91	88	80	73	89	114	130
1944	110	104	106	120	102	93	84	77	74	92	117	122
1945	109	105	111	122	105	96	84	76	75	94	116	109
1946	106	104	114	124	107	100	86	77	76	94	112	100
1947	104	104	116	123	109	103	89	78	78	92	108	95
1948	102	105	117	120	109	105	93	82	80	91	102	93
1949	102	105	118	118	110	106	95	84	82	89	96	93
1950	102	107	118	115	109	106	96	87	84	88	94	96
1951	101	109	117	114	109	106	97	89	84	86	92	96
1952	101	108	116	113	109	106	99	90	85	86	91	96
1953	100	107	114	113	109	107	100	92	86	86	90	95
1954	99	107	111	114	111	108	103	93	87	86	90	93
1955	98	107	109	114	112	108	105	94	88	86	90	90
	(c) Seasonally adjusted monthly index of average weekly rate											
1941	24.8	27.4	27.2	23.9	27.9	29.5	31.3	32.3	31.1	30.9	31.8	36.8
1942	33.2	33.5	33.4	23.1	27.1	37.0	38.4	37.2	37.4	33.3	34.1	36.6
1943	38.0	34.2	31.8	30.3	32.9	37.0	35.6	35.4	37.9	43.4	43.2	33.1
1944	38.1	44.5	55.7	46.3	43.4	38.7	33.1	31.4	29.1	35.8	40.9	55.5
1945	55.5	53.1	57.0	56.9	60.4	63.1	59.2	56.6	58.1	56.4	52.7	52.7
1946	22.5	35.9	35.0	46.9	38.2	24.5	31.7	34.7	37.6	42.8	51.2	32.0
1947	45.2	45.3	48.9	39.3	43.0	51.9	54.9	56.9	47.9	41.3	36.7	38.7
1948	44.9	44.8	42.2	48.2	50.5	49.9	52.4	51.7	50.6	51.1	59.7	71.0
1949	69.3	67.5	63.2	64.2	67.4	65.2	56.4	59.3	67.7	79.1	69.7	68.5
1950	65.1	66.6	74.1	70.2	69.5	73.7	81.2	89.0	92.7	83.0	76.0	82.0
1951	82.7	91.1	89.7	98.0	101.8	100.1	103.3	101.0	98.6	93.8	98.4	102.2
1952	104.7	115.5	105.2	97.9	93.7	95.3	91.8	89.9	96.8	104.1	108.5	107.4
1953	108.5	103.0	104.9	107.5	109.6	108.0	103.4	102.1	106.0	114.9	127.3	122.1
1954	121.3	115.2	116.9	117.4	115.0	115.0	119.9	123.9	125.7	113.6	111.1	99.4
1955	104.0	122.1	121.3	126.5	132.0	138.2	138.1	136.8	131.1	139.5	140.0	149.0

1/ Yearly totals do not necessarily add to 1,200 due to rounding.









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AMS Neg. 3145-56(5)

Table 29.- Eggs: Cold storage holdings at season peak, compared with February-June production of eggs on farms, 1930 to date

(data for cover chart)

Year	Storage holdings of eggs at season peak			Egg production on farms Feb.-June	Peak storage holdings as a percentage of Feb.-June production
	Shell 1/	Frozen 2/ 3/	Total, case equivalent		
	Million cases	Million pounds	Million cases	Million cases	Percent
1930	4/11.2	116.3	14.4	64.8	22.3
1931	9.5	114.7	12.6	61.7	20.5
1932	4/ 6.4	5/100.5	9.2	58.7	15.7
1933	4/ 9.5	107.7	12.5	58.2	21.4
1934	9.0	121.6	12.3	56.4	21.7
1935	4/ 7.9	116.3	11.1	52.4	21.2
1936	4/ 7.3	115.5	10.5	55.0	19.0
1937	4/ 8.7	166.9	13.2	58.9	22.4
1938	4/ 6.4	5/138.5	10.1	57.6	17.5
1939	4/ 7.0	144.4	10.9	59.5	18.3
1940	4/ 7.8	154.9	11.9	60.6	19.6
1941	4/ 6.6	195.2	11.8	61.6	19.3
1942	7.9	290.5	15.7	72.1	21.7
1943	8.9	351.2	18.2	82.7	22.0
1944	11.4	388.5	21.7	88.3	24.6
1945	6.1	5/255.9	12.9	83.5	15.5
1946	9.9	5/265.0	16.9	83.4	20.3
1947	4/ 4.3	241.6	10.7	79.1	13.5
1948	5.7	5/266.7	12.8	76.7	16.7
1949	2.3	168.4	6.8	75.8	8.9
1950	3.7	5/188.5	8.7	79.0	11.0
1951	2.4	190.8	7.4	76.7	9.7
1952	3.4	5/166.4	7.7	76.4	10.1
1953	1.5	5/159.8	5.7	73.6	7.7
1954	1.6	5/186.2	6.5	74.2	8.7
1955	2.3	194.7	7.3	74.5	9.9

1/ July 1 unless otherwise indicated.
2/ Aug. 1 unless otherwise indicated.
3/ 37.5 lb. frozen equal to 1 case shell eggs through 1950. For years thereafter, 38.5 lb.
4/ August 1.
5/ July 1.

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